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ED'S PLEDGE TO WIN BACK KENT

Picture: THE CBI

PROMISE: Ed Miliband was in Kent this week

By **MARIJKE COX**

Miliband vows to get Labour back in county, whether he wins leadership battle or not

LABOUR leadership candidate Ed Miliband has vowed to put some red back into the Kent political map after the Tories won every seat at the general election.

He was speaking on a visit to the county in a bid to reconnect with disillusioned voters and win vital support for his leadership bid from party activists.

Despite coming face-to-face with the voters who helped turn the political map completely blue, Mr Miliband said he believed there was still a chance to restore public confidence in Labour.

Speaking to KOS Media after his visit, the 40-year-old, who is MP for Doncaster North, echoed former leader Gordon Brown's words that Kent is key in taking on the coalition government.

"It is a real focus for us," he said.

"The Labour message seemed to get lost in the general election campaign and I'm determined to show people living here we can change their lives.

"Politics has got a bad name and we need to defend it. We must show we can take action and make people feel like society is fair.

"Voters and party members are up for a fight against this coalition."

As one of the favourites to step into Brown's shoes, Mr Miliband – who is standing against his brother David in the leadership election – said he would make real changes for residents.

"If I was Labour leader I would make a difference," he said.

"I want to help change their lives – we need to show people we don't take them for granted.

"What the coalition Government is doing is unfair and the cuts economically damaging.

"I'll fight the coalition either as Labour leader or a party member and I will definitely be coming back to Kent to do so."

Medway was the focus of Mr Miliband's visit where, accompanied by members of the local Labour team and former councillor Bill Esterson, now MP for Sefton Central, he helped canvass for the Medway Council by-election on August 12 for Labour candidate John Jones.

Mr Miliband admitted it gave him a chance to see what was needed to restore public confidence in a party that was crushed by the Tories, not only in May's elections, but also the Kent County Council elections in 2009.

"I went knocking on doors, speaking to people about things that would affect them directly," he said.

"We've got to make this reconnection with people that used to vote Labour.

"This was getting back to what the party is really about.

"We've got to fight for every vote and by going back to basics, speaking to people about what is important to them, I think we can do this."

Mr Miliband, former secretary of state for energy and climate change, said he wants to introduce a living wage of more than £7 an hour to bring back a sense of value for working people. He also stressed his desire to abolish tuition fees for university students.

Mr Miliband said it was important to look at a new coal-fired power station at Kingsnorth, on the Hoo Peninsula, provided there was adequate carbon capture and storage (CSS).

"We've got to ensure it is clean coal – you can't just build power stations without CCS," he said. "Building a new power station could create thousands of jobs."

Mr Miliband's brother David, 44, former foreign secretary and Labour MP for South

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

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'Whoever wins it will be a tough fight'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Shields, visited Medway in May and outlined the area's importance to the party.

The brothers are the front-runners in the Labour leadership election, with the new leader due to be announced in September after a ballot of MPs, party members, and trade unionists.

The younger Mr Miliband said they have a good relationship and it was "weird" being up against his sibling.

He added: "I love David very much and probably see him more now than I ever have.

"Whoever wins it will be a tough fight, but whether I become Labour leader or not, I will fight this coalition."

In May, former Labour leader Neil Kinnock announced he would endorse Ed Miliband's leadership campaign and left-wing ex-cabinet minister Tony Benn has also shown his support.

Academy plans 'burden' on County Hall funding

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

SCHOOLS opting out of local authority control to become academies could cause a massive burden on Kent County Council's budget.

And crucial services provided by County Hall to secondary and primary schools could be at risk if academies decide to buy provisions elsewhere.

As the Academies Bill was discussed in Parliament this week, KCC officials from the department for children, families and education considered the changes that could take place should legislation be passed.

If the list of 15 schools – 12 'outstanding' and three federated – formally interested in becoming academies do convert, KCC will lose out on more than £700,000 in grants, whereas the schools would rake in a total of some £4 million.

Leaders at KCC fear the more schools that breakaway to become academies, the less money there will be for lower-achieving schools in its budget.

Independence

Tory leader of KCC, Cllr Paul Carter, said he expected some of the cash for academies may come from the council's budget.

"This would be a real burden and could mean less for us to provide core services," he said.

"We would then have to fill that with money from other services across the council."

Those converting to academies will be given more independence and responsibility – despite remaining publicly funded – including the ability to set their own pay for staff, greater control of their budget, and freedom from the National Curriculum.

Schools rated 'outstanding' by Ofsted would be fast-tracked, despite initial academy plans under Labour focusing on weaker schools.

BUDGET CUTS: KCC chiefs fear minister Michael Gove's plans for academies will lead to a cut in funding for core services

Although funding for academies would be comparable to maintained schools, they would also get a share of the local authority budget for central services, plus an additional payment worth six times the amount of the initial extra share.

But where this additional money would come from in the future is not clear, and councils fear it could end up falling on their shoulders if the Government was to reduce funding at any point.

Cllr Carter also admitted the potential loss of providing amenities to academies once they became independent would be added pressure.

"The budget is a serious concern to us. We will have to reshape our support services to adapt to these rapid changes that are happening in education," he said.

"We provide services for schools in Kent, but academies have control over their own budgets and could decide to buy the services elsewhere.

"The whole schools support network could be affected."

Independent education advisor Peter Read, based in Gravesend, said this could lead to big losses to KCC.

"If every secondary school in Kent was to become an academy and not buy their services through KCC, there would be no infrastructure for these services at KCC," he said.

These include support for vulnerable children or special needs help, which could potentially be under threat if this was to happen.

Cllr Carter said although he supported education secretary Michael Gove, he said in some cases it could mean fewer opportunities for weaker schools.

Brittle

"The academy scheme means schools will have independence, but for those that are weaker and have chosen not to have local authority support we may not be able to help them," he said.

"We've had a role in helping and supporting the educational skills agenda and I think this is significant to some schools.

"For outstanding schools they will be fine with independence, but other schools may not be.

"There needs to be a level playing-field.

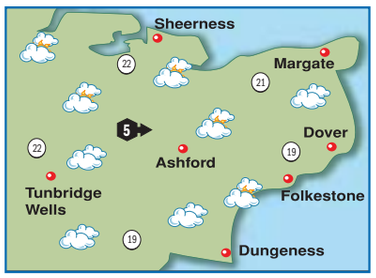
"We are going to have to go with the flow – it's all happening very quickly."

Cllr Carter added that although he encouraged secondary schools to look into the academy process, he was unsure about the decision to invite primary schools to apply.

"I have serious reservations about this," he said. "They are much more brittle and need more support with their budgets and services."

Four schools given 'early approval' this week to become academies are Canterbury High School, Dartford Boys Grammar, Fulston Manor School in Sittingbourne, and the Hayesbrook School in Tonbridge.

Kent today



TODAY: A largely dry day but cloudy for much of the time, with the best of any sunshine likely to be early and late in the day. A gentle westerly breeze. Max temp 19-22C (66-72F). **TONIGHT:** Mostly dry overnight with clear periods becoming widespread. Gentle winds. Min temp 12-15C (54-59F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	cloudy	18	64	London	cloudy	24	75
Belfast	cloudy	19	66	Liverpool	cloudy	19	66
Birmingham	cloudy	22	72	Manchester	cloudy	20	68
B'mouth	cloudy	22	72	Newcastle	fair	21	70
Bristol	cloudy	20	68	Norwich	fair	22	72
Cardiff	cloudy	20	68	Oxford	cloudy	22	72
Cork	cloudy	21	70	Southsea	cloudy	22	72
Edinburgh	cloudy	19	66	S'hampton	cloudy	21	70
Glasgow	cloudy	17	63	Southport	cloudy	18	64
Isle of Man	cloudy	18	64	Swansea	cloudy	19	66
Leeds	cloudy	19	66	Torquay	cloudy	20	68

Sun & moon

Sunrise	5.08am	Sunset	8.55pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	8.30pm	Moonset	4.22am	8.55pm to 5.09am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)
Dover	11.36	6.2	23.57	6.2	–	–	12.13	6.4
Margate	00.23	4.4	12.36	4.4	01.05	4.5	13.09	4.5
St Mary's	05.11	4.9	17.28	5.3	05.49	5.1	18.05	5.4

Week ahead

monday Warm and bright. max 24C min14C

tuesday Dry, very warm. max 25C min 14C

wednesday Showers. Warm. max 23C min 13C

thursday Mostly fine. max 23C min 11C

friday Dry and settled. max 23C min 12C

saturday Very warm. max 25C min 13C

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ARRESTED: Alex Turner's photograph

Terrorism laws under review over 'nonsense' with snappers

ANTI-terrorism powers that have led to innocent photographers being unfairly detained by police are to be reviewed by the Government, ***writes Steve Knight***.

Home Secretary Theresa May revealed last week that stop-and-search legislation will go under scrutiny because "the duty to protect the public must never be used as a reason to ride roughshod over our civil liberties".

This comes after a photographer was arrested in Chatham High Street for taking a picture of a policewoman.

Alex Turner said the incident last year resulted in him being handcuffed, with the officer in question later telling him she was "intimidated" by his 5ft 11in frame.

The review of anti-terrorism powers was welcomed in the House of Commons by three of Kent's Tory – MPs Rehman Chishti, Tracey Crouch, Charlie Elphicke and Helen Grant.

Brigita Amey, president of Kent County Photographic Association, said she hoped to contribute to the study.

She said: "This is very welcome as photographers have had all sorts of bad experiences under this legislation, frequently due to a misunderstanding by the police of what they can actually do. They have no right to confiscate equipment, delete images and so on, but all of these things have been done.

"I hope the review will stop this nonsense."

According to the Home Secretary, the review will be conducted by the Home Office with the full involvement of the police, security and intelligence agencies and other government departments. It will be overseen by the former director of public prosecutions Lord Macdonald, and will include input from the civil rights group Liberty.

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A dangerous game

Former Zimbabwe cricketer's new book tells of his life in Kent after brave stand against dictator Mugabe's regime

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

AS THE first black cricketer to play for Zimbabwe and the youngest player to represent the team, Henry Olonga was already used to the sporting limelight.

But it was his controversial protest in 2003 against the Zimbabwean Government under Robert Mugabe that took him off the back pages and onto the front pages.

In a symbol mourning the death of democracy, the fast bowler and his team-mate Andy Flower wore black armbands in a cricket World Cup match against Namibia.

Olonga said it was a silent plea to those responsible to stop the abuse of human rights. But just weeks later, after receiving death threats and being branded a traitor, he went into hiding before fleeing his home country and moving to Kent.

In a new book, Blood Sweat and Treason, released on Monday, Olonga tells the story of his life before and after his protest against the Zimbabwean government.

The 34-year-old said: "Writing this book I had to revisit a lot of the difficult things that happened to me while I was growing up, which I suppose at times has been hard.

"But it made me see how things have changed me as a person and I found it quite intriguing."

DEATH THREATS: Henry Olonga has no regrets over his stand against dictator Robert Mugabe and (inset) his new book tells the story of life before and after his protest

Speaking to KOS Media about his famous protest, Olonga said he had no regrets.

"I think it was absolutely necessary.

"It was an opportunity for us to draw attention to the corruption and bad leadership under Mugabe.

"A lot of people were oblivious to what was happening and I'm confident we got more people to understand the problems in Zimbabwe.

"I didn't realise the effect it would have though until about a week later I started receiving death threats.

"My father was living in Zimbabwe, but I had to leave.

"Zimbabwean people are strong in the face of adversity and I suppose I just had to deal with what was happening."

Reports at the time were that a warrant was out for his arrest on charges of treason – a charge which carries the death penalty in Zimbabwe – but Olonga said he was unable to confirm this as he was out of the country by then.

"I came to England from South Africa with help from the chairman of Lashings, David Folb," he said.

The Lashings cricket team, based in Maidstone, was started in 1984 by Mr Folb and has since attracted cricketing legends including Richie Richardson, Jimmy Adams and Brian Lara. Olonga has been with the team for almost eight years.

"I lived in Maidstone for a number of years before moving to London, but I still see Kent as my English home," he said.

He married in 2004 and is now expecting a child with his wife Tara.

"I want this book to do two things," he said.

"Firstly, I want to bring awareness of the problems of Zimbabwe to people. There are injustices that still exist.

"There are people out there that can make a big difference.

"Secondly, this is a story of my life and an opportunity for me to share my experiences about growing up in Zimbabwe, with all its political problems.

"It's a story that will be significant to the cricketing fraternity of Zimbabwe."

• ***For information or to purchase the book go to www.amazon.co.uk/Blood-Sweat-Treason-Henry-Olonga/dp/1905326815.***

Toll booths may go in attempt to beat congestion

TOLL booths could be removed from the Dartford crossing in an effort to tackle congestion in the area.

Dartford Tory MP Gareth Johnson met with Secretary of State for Transport Phillip Hammond, and said: "The ministers have accepted that current levels of congestion at the crossing cannot be allowed to continue.

"There was an acceptance that there has to be change.

"The ministry is carrying out a review of the logistics involved in removing the toll booths and the misery, congestion and pollution they cause.

"Whilst this review is being carried out the ministry will also look at the possibility of allowing the tolls to be suspended when severe tailbacks build up.

"It clearly makes sense for the tolls to be suspended to allow tailbacks to clear."

KENT County Council leader Paul Carter has apologised to staff upset that senior officers pocketed £53,000 in bonuses last year.

The cash was paid despite a promise made by former chief executive Peter Gilroy in January, 2009, that members of the chief officers group would not accept bonuses for 2009-10 in recognition of the current financial situation.

His statement followed an announcement in last year's budget that staff would only receive a one per cent pay rise.

However, Cllr Carter pointed out at that the money relates to performance in 2008-09.

"I do admit the Peter Gilroy statement could have been better worded," he said. "There was no intention to mislead staff, but because it was not explicit it was open to misinterpretation."

Cllr Carter went on to explain that bonuses for chief officers can only be paid in the financial year that follows that in which they are awarded. Therefore there will be none paid for 2010-11, nor for 2011-12.

He added: "I hope this ends the matter and I apologise to staff who may have felt misled."

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Camera to snap every passer-by

CIVIL rights campaigners have criticised the installation of a talking camera that warns off potential flytippers and would-be vandals.

The FlashCam – unveiled by Shepway council this week – is a motion sensor device that has already seen a reduction in crime at a Cheriton charity shop where it was trialled.

As well as taking a picture, a speaker mounted on the camera tells people walking in front of it: "Stop. If you are flytipping or committing any other illegal activity, your photo has been taken and will be used to prosecute you. Leave the area now."

The cameras will be installed at antisocial hotspots in the district and are said to be six times cheaper than normal CCTV, but civil rights campaigners are not impressed.

Alex Deane, director of Big Brother Watch, said: "These cameras are a disproportionate over-reaction... At best they will move problems on to other areas. Unless the council is going to monitor all places, all the time – a horrifying prospect – then they're just an intrusive and expensive waste of time."

The £6,000 talking camera was officially launched by Shepway councillors at a notorious flytipping site in Harvey Passage – off Harvey Street in Folkestone.

WATCH IT: Hugh Barker, Rory Love, Sue Wallace and Shaun Taylor are pleased with the new camera in Harvey Passage, Folkestone, but campaigners fear it is a step too far

They revealed how the dumping of rubbish was such a problem that the alleyway has been cleaned every day for the past two years.

Cabinet member for community safety Cllr Hugh Barker said: "We hope to run it out in other areas where we know there are problems. It takes a huge number of photographs which can be downloaded and that way we hope to catch the people and prosecute them.

"We have had problems on Romney Marsh, particularly with flytipping, and we've used covert cameras there. But this particular one is there for everyone to see and it gives a warning, so you have no excuse if you're caught."

Boris Island not a flier, MP told

A FLOATING airport off the Thames Estuary will not be considered by the coalition Government, according to aviation minister Theresa Villiers.

London Mayor Boris Johnson believes the £40 billion 'Boris Island' could be built within 10 years, but his plans have been criticised from the start.

And now his own party has distanced itself from the controversial proposals, which Mr Johnson first put forward as an alternative to a third runway at Heathrow.

Responding to a Parliamentary question from Gillingham and Rainham Tory MP Rehman Chishti, Mrs Villiers confirmed it was not an option the Government was considering.

She added: "Our priority is to make efficient use of existing airport infrastructure in the South East."

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Passengers help the Channel Tunnel mark the milestone of passenger number 250 million

Appeal clears woman of murdering her boyfriend

By **MARIJKE COX**
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A TEENAGER jailed for stabbing her violent boyfriend to death has been freed after the Court of Appeal ruled she had been provoked into the attack.

Kirsty Scamp, then 19, killed Jason Bull, 28, on March 13, 2006, with a single stab wound to the chest and was sentenced to life imprisonment for murder in February, 2007.

But she launched an appeal, arguing that it should have been manslaughter.

"The biggest punishment you live with is the knowledge you have taken a life," she said. "I have to live with that every day and the feelings of guilt never go away.

NOW FREE: Kirsty Scamp

"However, I know I am not a murderer. I did not mean to kill Jason, he was attacking me at the time and I was terrified."

The 24-year-old, from Sittingbourne, was released from Holloway Prison on Thursday morning after it was ruled the trial judge had failed to adequately sum-up the issue of provocation to the jury at Maidstone Crown Court in 2007.

Her murder conviction was quashed and a lesser sentence for manslaughter was imposed with a six-year sentence, entitling her to be freed immediately.

Miss Scamp's appeal lawyers argued the judge had not emphasised the extent of Mr Bull's violence and said he was addicted to alcohol, took drugs, and had attacked her before his death.

Solicitor Harriet Wistrich, from Birnberg Peirce in London, told KOS Media it had been found there had been a misdirection in Miss Scamp's trial.

"We're delighted. This is a just result – you never really know what's going to happen, but we were hoping and praying this would be the outcome," she said.

Campaigners from Justice for Women helped fight Miss Scamp's case on the grounds that she had been subjected to violence in her relationship with Mr Bull.

A spokeswoman said: "We're delighted the set of judges saw that her conviction was a miscarriage of justice.

"This was about a woman who killed to save her own life.

"We were confident that common sense would prevail and the panel of judges would see Kirsty is not a murderer and certainly not a danger to the public."

Domestic violence

Justice for Women argued Miss Scamp had been brought up in a culture of domestic violence, having watched her mother being assaulted by her father and her step-father.

On a number of occasions she fled with her mother and brothers to women's refuges.

After setting up home with Mr Bull in Sheerness, Miss Scamp discovered he could be violent towards her.

She said in once incident, on February, 2006, a month before she stabbed him, he had grabbed her by the throat and starting punching her, perforating her ear drum.

The prosecution case during her trial said on the night of Mr Bull's death Miss Scamp had flown into a jealous rage after witnessing him on the phone to another girl and lunged at him with a knife.

But Miss Scamp claimed he had grabbed her by the hair and started hitting her and she "just wanted him to stop".

It was argued in the appeal court on Wednesday that the trial judge had not properly directed the jury on Mr Bull's violent past and to the extent Miss Scamp had been provoked.

[redacted] BRITAIN'S first female Muslim peer is under investigation for allegedly claiming £100,000 for a property she barely occupied.

Residents living near Baroness Uddin's two-bedroom flat in Maidstone say the building has lain empty since it was purchased in 2005, despite the peer having registered it as her main home.

She escaped criminal charges for the same alleged offence back in March when the Crown Prosecution Service concluded there was insufficient evidence.

However, the clerk of parliaments Michael Pownall has asked the Lords standards sub-committee to investigate Baroness Uddin's travel expenses. She could be suspended for up to a year if she is found to have brought parliament into disrepute.

Baroness Uddin has denied any wrongdoing.

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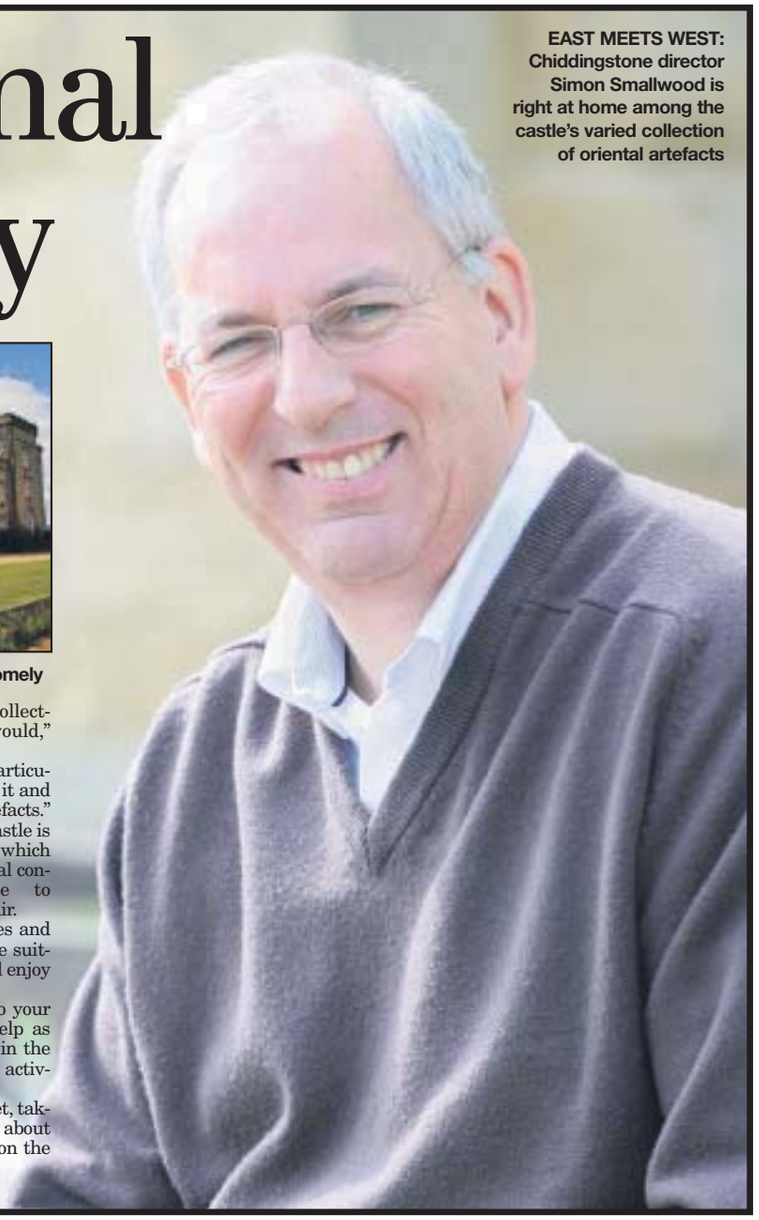
THE INTERVIEW

BY JANE CONNOLLY

An international man of history



EAST MEETS WEST: Chiddingstone director Simon Smallwood is right at home among the castle's varied collection of oriental artefacts

A TRANQUIL corner of Kent can be just as exotic as Kamakura, as oriental enthusiast Simon Smallwood soon discovered.

When the former jet-setting business consultant became director of Chiddingstone Castle last autumn, he found that his cultural travels had not been entirely left behind.

The castle boasts an extensive and world-renowned collection of artefacts, including an array of Japanese and Buddhist items.

"I'd been an international consultant and travelled to Japan a lot in the course of my professional life," he said. "I fell in love with Japan, its people and culture, and once I realised there was a Japanese element at Chiddingstone, it was certainly one of the things I took into account."

One of the castle's strategies for attracting visitors in Kent's competitive tourism market is to make the most of its assets. One of the highlights of this summer's programme of family events is a Japanese Festival on the August bank holiday, when a real-life samurai will be travelling from Japan to show off his skills.

Smallwood also takes pride in making families and young children feel welcome at this elegant country home.

"We try to make the castle and grounds as informal as we can. We want people to feel they can come here and explore. For instance, we don't have one 'Keep Off The Grass' sign.

"We want everybody to feel it's here for them to enjoy and feel at home. It's called a castle, but it's a Victorian vision of a castle. But it was a family home for 500 years and we want visitors to feel comfortable and enjoy the place."

Another unique aspect of Chiddingstone Castle's history is former owner Denys Bower, who amassed the collections seen at the castle today and also had a colourful personal life.

"He was an eccentric and when he put his collections together, he was not necessarily collecting as a museum or other institution would," Smallwood said.

CHIDDINGSTONE CASTLE: Elegant and homely

"He collected what he liked. If he had a particular affection for something, he would pursue it and start getting other items in that genre of artefacts."

Among his ambitions for Chiddingstone Castle is the creation of a Japanese stroll garden, which would further reinforce the property's oriental connections. For Smallwood, the move to Chiddingstone has become a real family affair.

"After 10 years of getting on and off planes and living out of suitcases, it was time to put the suitcase in the loft for longer than two weeks and enjoy a bit of home time," he said.

"When you come to the castle, it gets into your bones. Family members come down and help as volunteers on activity days, my wife works in the tearoom and my children help with the kids' activities. It's such a lovely setting."

The next event will be The Stuarts in Secret, taking place on Monday. For more information about the castle, telephone 01892 870347 or click on the website www.chiddingstonecastle.org.uk.

Discrimination claim policewoman must pay costs to force

Police win case brought by would-be dog handler

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A HIGH-pitched former sergeant who accused Kent Police of crushing her dreams of becoming a dog handler has lost her claim for disability discrimination.

Bosses at the force told Catherine Gilbert, 36, from Sittingbourne, that she would have found it virtually impossible to give clear orders to the animals due to her suffering from the rare voice disorder called spasmodic dysphonia (SD).

But Miss Gilbert, who quit in 2005 following a pay dispute, felt aggrieved that she was not even allowed to try, and turned to the law.

However, an employment tribunal ruled this week that the case was "misconceived" and that she should contribute a sum of money – believed to be about £2,000 – towards the force's legal costs.

Assistant Chief Constable Allyn Thomas said: "We are obviously sorry Miss Gilbert has not been able to pursue the career she chose but it is important officers who are selected for a role are able to meet the necessary standards.

"We also have a duty to protect the public purse and we always seek compensation for legal costs in those cases where claimants are not successful."

CAREER: Catherine Gilbert wanted to train police dogs, such as this German shepherd

SD is a rare disorder in which one or more muscles of the voice box move involuntarily, causing a sufferer's speech to sound abnormally high or tight.

There is currently no cure although there are several treatments that lessen its effects, such as botox injections.

Miss Gilbert showed early symptoms of the condition in 1997 but was not diagnosed until 2005, after which time she went on sick leave, which she claimed was due to anxiety and depression brought on by her poor treatment by the force.

She told an earlier hearing at the tribunal in Ashford that when employed by Kent Police the force failed to make "reasonable adjustments" for her condition, leaving her unable to communicate with colleagues or use the telephone without difficulty.

She added that she was not offered any counselling to help cope with the disorder.

Had Miss Gilbert been successful with her claim for disability discrimination, she stood to pocket tens of thousands of pounds in compensation.

But in a reserved judgement, the tribunal panel unanimously ruled that she was "not disabled for the purposes of the Disability Discrimination Act" and dismissed the action.

At the earlier hearing in August last year, tribunal chairman Martin Kurrein had warned that "the act is not a charter to blame someone for everything that happens to them in life".

The majority of dogs trained by Kent Police are German shepherds, although they do have several labradors and springer spaniels.

Sleeping driver killed teenager

A DRIVER who fell asleep at the wheel lost control of his car and killed a teenage boy.

Koaldeap Singh Lit has been jailed for three-and-a-half years after being branded a liar by the judge.

Josh Callaghan, 16, was walking along London Road, Gravesend, with his father when Lit's car swerved off the road, mounted the pavement and ran him over.

Josh, from Canon Road in Bromley, suffered severe head injuries and died a few hours later.

LOCKED UP: Koaldeap Singh Lit fell asleep driving

A jury at Maidstone Crown Court took just two hours to return a unanimous guilty verdict against Lit, from Cliffe Road, Strood, who was charged with causing death by dangerous driving.

The crash happened at around 4pm on Saturday, January 24, 2009, as Lit, a 35-year-old construction worker, drove home in his Vauxhall Vectra from a morning's work in Bath. Josh was walking on the pavement with his dad Tim on their way to play a game of pool at a local pub.

Lit claimed a dog had run into the road and he swerved to avoid it. He denied falling asleep.

But Judge Jeremy Gold QC told Lit that he had lied about the dog and about the number of stops he had made on the way from Bath – he claimed to have stopped six times.

He said: "What you did was to carry on driving when you knew you were falling asleep, colliding with Josh and missing his father by inches. You realised what you had done and embarked on a course of deliberate lies. I can see very little remorse in the way you have conducted yourself."

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Dockyard opens £13m museum

A MULTI-million pound maritime museum opens in Chatham Historic Dockyard this weekend.

The renovated No1 Smithery, transformed with £13 million of funding, will open its doors to visitors for the first time on Saturday.

The building will house unique and previously unseen maritime artefacts, national and international touring art exhibitions, and interactive family learning and entertainment spaces.

The Smithery is divided into three sections; two display rooms – Maritime Treasures and The Gallery – and The Courtyard.

Maritime Treasures will house a range of maritime models, art and other objects from the collections of the National Maritime Museum and the Imperial War Museum as well as from the Historic Dockyard's own collection.

The Gallery opens with Resonance and Renewal, a collection of Stanley Spencer paintings called Shipbuilding on the Clyde, shown alongside 28 drawings of Smithery tools.

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Commuters are facing yet more price hikes

TRAIN passengers hoping for a break from high ticket fares could miss out as the Government reviews its pricing system as part of its efforts to tackle the budget deficit, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

For train passengers in Kent – who already pay some of the highest fares in the country – it means a long-awaited reprieve may not happen as soon as hoped.

With the Department for Transport looking to reduce Government rail subsidies, the proposals are to allow train operators to charge more for season and saver tickets through changes to the pricing formula.

Tunde Olatunji, Kent manager for independent watchdog Passenger Focus, said if the review results in the current formula for fares being increased, passengers could have to carry on paying high increases on tickets each year.

Rail firm Southeastern is in a four-year franchise agreement with the Government which allows the company to increase fares by as much as three per cent above the retail price index (RPI), currently 5.3 per cent.

For train firms across the rest of the country the formula for raising fares is just RPI plus one per cent.

The pricing regulations allow Southeastern flexibility to increase some fares by up to five per cent, as long as the overall average across the area does not go above RPI plus three per cent.

COSTLY: Rail fares may be increased

For example, in January, 2011, commuters could be hit with a £350 increase to £4,230 in season tickets from eastern parts of the county to London, if Southeastern decided to raise prices.

But with the franchise agreement due to run out in 2012, the pricing formula for Kent had been set to drop to the same levels as the rest of the country – meaning lower fare increases.

Plans submitted to the Treasury, however, suggest giving train operators flexibility to charge more for season and saver tickets with a new formula of inflation plus five per cent.

If it goes ahead, a season ticket from eastern Kent to London could be as high as £4,268.

Although no final decisions have been made, transport secretary Philip Hammond admitted at a National Rail conference he could not guarantee to keep the formula at one per cent.

"To my mind the current fares formula is a reasonable and sensible approach," he said.

"But it cannot be set in stone when all the other variables are vulnerable to change. And, ahead of the Spending Review, I cannot guarantee to retain that formula."

Mr Olatunji said if the formula was to change, commuters hoping for a reduction in 2012 would be disappointed.

"After the two years is up the idea is to fall back in line with the rest of the country," he said. "But if Government increases the RPI plus one per cent then they won't see that drop."

A spokesman at Southeastern said no decisions had been made and the company was yet to see the Government's proposals.

"This is a totally political thing," he said. "We will wait until we're instructed by the Department for Transport.

"If the Department for Transport decides it's going to cut subsidies to all the train companies, and they decide to make the shortfall up by increasing the formulas, that's their decision.

"It may be that it is done on individual train companies or it could be the same across the board."

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Royal St George's will top Open held at the home of golf

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

SPECTATORS disappointed by last weekend's Open Golf Championship have been promised a superior experience when the competition comes to Kent next year.

LEGEND: Woods

A number of Kent County Council and Dover District Council officials were in attendance as Louis Oosthuizen strolled to victory at the St Andrews course in Scotland – widely accepted as the home of golf – but left feeling confident that Royal St George's in Sandwich will provide much better value for money.

Cabinet member for community services Cllr Mike Hill was among those invited to the world-famous event by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club to see stars like Tiger Woods in action.

He said: "There's a real air of excitement about the Open coming to Kent next year because there are a lot of advantages with St George's.

"It's the best of all the Open venues from a hosting perspective because there's more space for people to come in and watch, and there are better views.

"St Andrew's is a fascinating course, but it's not great for viewing the action because it's as flat as a pancake."

The last time the Open came to Kent was in 2003, when just over 180,000 spectators crammed into Royal St George's.

Cllr Hill said he hoped the emergence of young British stars like Rory McIlroy and Ross Fisher would help swell next year's attendance to about 250,000.

Next year's event is expected to generate £70 million of inward investment for Kent.

The event could also inspire home-grown talent like Herne Bay golfer Steven Tiley, who was among the early pace-setters at last weekend's championship and walked away with £10,000 after finishing alongside Ryder Cup captain Colin Montgomerie in a share of 68th place.

"Golf has really caught the imagination of the British public and the sport is now bigger and busier as a result," Cllr Hill said.

"The Open will be worth tens of millions of pounds to Kent so it's hugely important we make sure we maximise the benefits to the county, and that's what last weekend's trip to St Andrew's was all about."

During the course of the visit – which cost £1,279 from KCC's Open project budget – Cllr Hill and two senior officers held meetings with the Royal and Ancient Golf Club, Fife Council and Kent Police.

Also in attendance were representatives from Visit Kent. Chief executive Sandra Matthews-Marsh said golf courses, hotels, restaurants, travel companies and other local businesses are also expected to receive a boost, creating more than 1,000 jobs directly and indirectly.

She added: "Royal St George's is the only Open venue in southern England and the closest to London, so this is a significant opportunity for Kent to benefit not just during Open week, but before and after the championship."

• ***Go to golfforkent.co.uk for more on the sport in the county.***

MADE UP: Gary the Gargoyle enjoys his moment in the sun

Winning team's monster effort

GARGOYLES are not always to be feared – in fact, get it right and one would win you a short holiday.

That's what happened to the winning team at this year's sandcastle building contest in Folkestone.

While there were not too many actual castles in the competition, the winning gargoyle was clever enough to take the winner's accolade.

It won at the fourth annual Folkestone Sandcastle Competition, staged to raise money for The Church Street Project which provides creative therapy and counselling for children in Shepway.

Organiser and Church Street trustee Shane Record said: "It was the busiest event so far. We were so pleased to get 45 teams taking part this year – that makes around 200 competitors in all.

"Every year the event gets bigger and better and our aim is to make the Folkestone Sandcastle Competition an unmissable local event."

American Channel swimmer Peter Jurzynski judged the efforts and chose The Grotesques' effort of a massive gargoyle crawling out of a sandpit to win a day trip to France from P&O Ferries.

The team members were all from Folkestone: Leigh Mulley, Sam Millen, Vincent Lloyd and Sam Lloyd.

For more information on the project visit www.churchstreetproject.co.uk.

WWII ship needs votes

HMS Cavalier in Chatham is a finalist in the National Lottery Awards 2010 and now needs your vote to help it win.

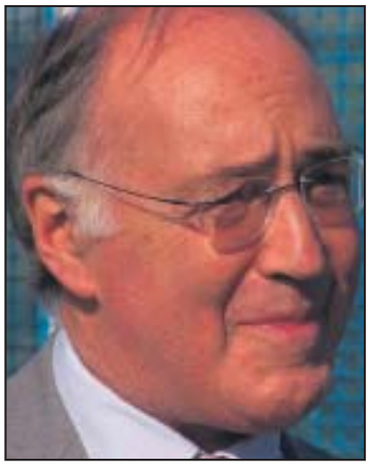
The awards are the search to find the UK's favourite lottery-funded projects, and HMS Cavalier has to beat two other finalists to win the title of the UK's Best Education Project.

HMS Cavalier was the Royal Navy's last operational World War Two destroyer and until 1999, was rotting in a dry dock on Tyneside.

The ship was acquired for display at The Historic Dockyard, Chatham, and is now a major heritage attraction and the focus of a range of educational programmes.

Voting starts at 9am on Monday and ends at noon on August 13. Vote by calling 0844 686 1038 or by going to www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/awards.

Lord Howard is straight to work



ENNOBLED: Lord Howard of Lympne

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

FORMER Tory leader Michael Howard has officially taken his seat at the House of Lords to become Lord Howard of Lympne.

The veteran Conservative, who was MP for Folkestone and Hythe for 27 years before stepping down at the general election in May, was ennobled at Westminster on Tuesday.

He was formally introduced to the House by two peers. But there was no time for celebrations, with the 68-year-old getting straight down to business after swearing his Oath of Allegiance and subsequently being elevated to the House of Lords.

He told KOS Media: "I went to work after the ceremony. There are many issues I'll be working on, although I won't have to come to Westminster every day. I'll work on subjects that I have taken an interest in throughout my career, such as law and order and crime.

"There will also be things relevant to my former constituency that I will look into and I'll be working very closely with Damian Collins, the new MP."

Mr Collins, who earlier this month won a place on the culture, media and sport select committee, was elected Conservative MP for Folkestone and Hythe in May.

Lord Howard said: "I don't have a constituency to look after and no obligations that I have to fulfil, so my job is now a little less onerous. I'm looking forward to working under the coalition government in the House of Lords."

The day after his ennoblement, Lord Howard spoke on the BBC about justice secretary Ken Clarke's plans to send fewer criminals to prison. The former Tory leader, who as Home Secretary famously declared "prison works", questioned Mr Clarke's policy.

He said serious and persistent criminals should be in prison so the public were protected. Through his political career, Lord Howard, who was opposition leader from 2003-05, held several senior positions.

He resigned the Tory leadership the day after losing the 2005 general election. As well as holding office as an MP for 27 years, he was secretary of state for employment from 1990-92; secretary of state for environment from 1992-93; Home Secretary from 1993-97; shadow foreign secretary 1997-99; and shadow chancellor from 2001-03.

He said: "I'm a great supporter of the coalition. I think it will be a real challenge and something good for this country."

The new coalition Government has pledged to make the House of Lords a mostly elected second chamber.

Others ennobled recently include former Labour deputy prime minister John Prescott; actress and television presenter Floella Benjamin who became Liberal Democrat Baroness Benjamin of Beckenham; and Guy Black, a former advisor of Lord Howard.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Thriller evening in haunted caves

GHOST walks will take place in the haunted Chislehurst Caves that Michael Jackson was allegedly too scared to live next to.

The late King of Pop was due to stay in a nearby mansion throughout the course of his ill-fated return to the London stage last year, but was rumoured to have been put off by the spooky goings-on.

But that hasn't put off the London Paranormal team which is holding night-time vigils in the caves on Saturday, July 31, and Saturday, August 28.

Tickets are £12 per person. Call 07982 230208 or visit www.londonparanormal.com.

HERO: John Allen receives his DFC from George VI

Campus tribute to Spitfire hero

A MEMORIAL service to commemorate a wartime Spitfire pilot will be held on Saturday.

The service, for John L Allen DFC, will take place at Christ Church University's Broadstairs campus.

He flew with 54 Squadron and received his Distinguished Flying Cross from King George VI just weeks before his death. His plane was the first to be brought down over Thanet during the Battle of Britain.

On July 24, 1940, aged just 24, Allen died when his plane stalled and crash-landed in Omer Avenue, Cliftonville. He was trying to reach RAF Manston after his Spitfire suffered engine damage during combat with German fighter ace Adolf Galland.

University chaplain, the Rev Dr Jeremy Law, will conduct the service in the campus courtyard from 2.30pm. Refreshments will follow in the Allen Building – named in honour of the pilot – where there will be a display of documents about his life.

He was credited with 54 Squadron's first claim of the war when he shot down a Ju88 over Dunkirk on May 21, 1940. He is buried in a Commonwealth war grave at Margate cemetery.

The Broadstairs campus is hosting a public lecture on the Battle of Britain this autumn. Military historian Richard Smith will discuss Memories of the Battle of Britain, specifically looking at events in Thanet. The lecture is on Thursday, October 7, at the campus in Northwood Road, from 6pm.

It is open to all and free, but must be booked in advance. To reserve a place, call 01843 609120.

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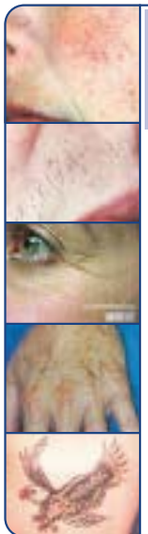
CONTROVERSIAL artist Tracey Emin was descended from a Sudanese slave, according to her cousin Baroness Hussein-Ece.

Delivering her maiden speech to the House of Lords last week, the Liberal Democrat peer revealed that both she and Margate-raised Emin were great-grandchildren of the slave named Abdullah.

She told how he was just 13 when traders dragged him and his sister screaming into their boats in the 1860s.

Baroness Hussein-Ece, who is Emin's cousin, said: "You could see Abdullah's features in a lot of my relatives. Some of them are very tall and very dark.

"You could see it with Enver, Tracey's dad. He was black."



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Camilla patronage a real feather in Red Wheelies' cap

CAMILLA, Duchess of Cornwall, has been announced as an honorary member of Canterbury's Red Wheelies, Britain's only mobility scooter formation display team.

The all-female team of multiple sclerosis sufferers, who recently completed a 150-mile scooter-powered trek from Winchester to Canterbury, invited the royal to join their team after seeing her pictured on her own mobility scooter in a newspaper. The duchess was using the device while presenting campaign medals to soldiers in Afghanistan in May after breaking her leg in April.

With dramatic treks and courageous escapades, the 10 Red Wheelies have so far raised more than £15,000 for the multiple sclerosis centre in Canterbury.

Camilla accepted the invitation from Red Wheelie Carol Coulson personally and wrote back saying she would be "delighted" to be an honorary member of the team.

Jackie Weeden, team leader, said: "I couldn't believe it when Carol showed us the letter from the duchess formally announcing her as an honorary member.

Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall

"We are delighted to be able to welcome the 11th member to the team and proud that the Duchess of Cornwall has shown her support for our venture with a personally written response."

Company Forever Active provide the Red Wheelies with scooters for their fundraising treks. Mark Nicholls, managing director, said: "The letter from Camilla is a highlight in a year that has seen the team tackle challenges bigger than ever."

To find out more or to make a donation to the team, go to www.redwheelies.co.uk.

Dicing with death on fast track to tragedy

TRAIN surfing, jumping on tracks and playing 'chicken' with locomotives are just some of the potentially deadly antics indulged in by young people every week in Kent, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

And if they're not playing on the line they're throwing things at it, with objects – including in one case a kitchen sink – being found on tracks.

Network Rail has revealed that 240 rail crimes were reported in the last year, although the true figure is believed to be much higher.

HIGH WIRE: Boy on cable

Dave Ward, the company's route director in Kent, said far too many people were still risking their lives.

"Unlike cars, trains cannot swerve and can take the length of 20 football pitches to stop," he said. "Contact with power lines can result in horrific injuries, burns or even death."

The shocking findings include distracting drivers with laser pens, and bricks and fireworks being hurled at trains. Young people have also been caught 'train surfing' where they grip on to the outside of a moving train, or playing 'chicken' where they jump out of the way just before the train reaches them.

Bikes, gas cylinders, scaffolding, a pram and traffic lights have all been thrown onto tracks in Kent, causing damage and delays.

As the summer holidays begin, Network Rail is asking young people not to put themselves at risk by playing near the tracks.

The company's No Messin' campaign, which is fronted by boxer Amir Khan, works with community groups to warn youngsters about the dangers. Khan is encouraging young people to take up positive activities.

"They need to know that playing chicken or throwing stones at trains won't get you respect or win you real friends," he said.

Figures from the rail company show 63 incidents of objects being thrown at trains in Kent; 92 reports of trespass, including playing chicken; and 15 incidents of graffiti.

Inspector Ed Walton of British Transport Police said the railway should not be treated as a playground.

SMASHED: Cab window

"Every year we see people risking their lives either by careless action, such as taking a shortcut across tracks or by playing on or near the line," he said. "Anyone who messes about near tracks is not only risking a court date, they are putting their life in danger."

- Ben Lavender, 17, was killed in April, 2009, at Westgate-on-Sea when he fell on a live line as he crossed the tracks.
- Jade Kenyon, 17, from Snodland, died in 2006 after touching a live rail as she walked along the tracks after missing a train at Cuxton station, near Rochester.

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It's a thinner blue line as 200 recruits are cut

KENT Police have been forced to cancel training placements for 200 recruits in a bid to help tackle a £23 million deficit.

Apologetic senior officers said the move was essential in making much-needed savings.

A total of 196 hopefuls – who had passed their assessments or were on the shortlist for an assessment centre place – have been told their placements are void. It comes a month after the force revealed it would have to make £23m savings over three years.

Assistant Chief Constable Allyn Thomas said: "We see no reasonable prospect of employing those on the waiting list in the next two years, so it's only fair to tell them and review our recruitment," he said.

"Because of the recession fewer officers are retiring or choosing to leave the service and that has an impact on the numbers we can recruit. We understand the disappointment of those who have already passed the selection process, but we have seen a fall in vacancies in the force."

Challenging

Between April 1, 2009, and March 31, 2010, some 127 recruits joined Kent Police as officers, and since April 1, 2010, 41 have been taken on. Mr Thomas said the force faced a challenging future.

"We have had to identify more than £20m of savings in the next three years," he said.

"This has involved a review of all areas, including recruitment. The aim is to improve the service to the public and to free more officers to work on the frontline.

"Ultimately this may lead to savings that can be reinvested in officer numbers."

Kent Police Federation chairman Ian Pointon told KOS Media the recruits would be "hugely disappointed" but the force had to make this difficult decision.

"Kent Police are between a rock and a hard place," he said. "They have to find these savings and the way to help do this is to slow down recruitment for the next couple of years. This isn't something that can be sorted out overnight.

New Chief Constable Ian Learmonth told KOS Media at the beginning of July that senior ranks may be slashed from the Kent Police hierarchy in a bid to save money.

UNFAIR COP: Kent Police are wrestling with a £23m deficit over the next three years

There are 24 superintendents in Kent earning between £60,750 and £74,022 per year, and 14 chief superintendents on between £72,543 and £76,680. The lowest ranked PC earns less than £23,000 per year.

Mr Learmonth said he was considering cutting the number of superintendents.

The force had already saved £5m through its collaboration with Essex Police, which includes the shared use of a helicopter and the launch this month of the new Serious Crime Directorate.

Ann Barnes, chair of Kent Police Authority, said: "I feel sorry for the applicants. This was a decision that wasn't made lightly. KPA and the force have to find a significant amount of money following budget cuts. I appreciate how disappointed everyone must feel. However, there really was no other option."

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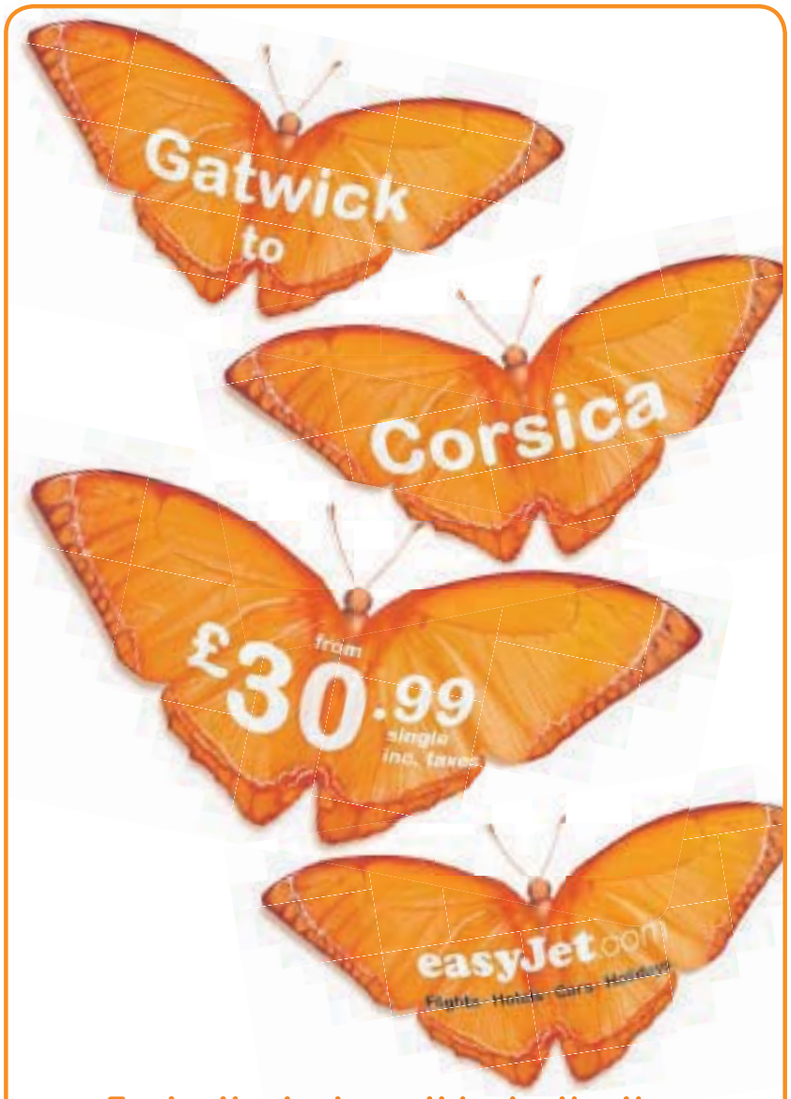

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Watchdog looks into NHS patient safety concerns

A HOSPITAL trust serving Bexley and Bromley has been reported to the Care Quality Commission amid concerns over patient safety and equipment shortfalls.

Old Bexley and Sidcup MP James Brokenshire blew the whistle on South London Healthcare NHS Trust after meeting senior clinicians who cited the cancellation of operations, sub-standard linen, lengthy waiting times and low staffing levels.

He told reporters: "I decided to refer the matter to the CQC to gain assurances that the trust was meeting clinical standards."

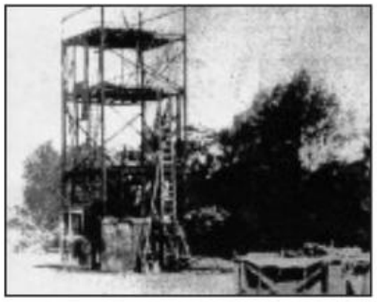
South London Healthcare provides acute care for Bromley from sites in Orpington, Beckenham and the former Farnborough Hospital, now the Princess Royal University.

It also serves 60 per cent of Bexley's residents from Queen Mary's in Sidcup.

The trust provides healthcare for more than a million people, employs 6,000 staff and has an annual budget of more than £400 million.

A spokesman admitted consultants had raised concerns about the shortage of medical supplies, but said the problem had been resolved. He added: "It is a trust with real challenges and we are on an improvement journey patients have been demanding for decades.

"Some colleagues are uncomfortable with the scale of changes as we move from three smaller hospitals to a large merged trust."



CAMPAIGNER: Lori Oschefski's relative Eric Cheeseman was one of 15 people to die in the Fireman's Wedding tragedy of July, 1929

Fireman's Wedding tragedy memorial hopes kept alive

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A MEMORIAL to commemorate the victims of a firefighting display that went tragically wrong could be on the cards after an international campaign.

Nine children and six adults burned to death during the Gillingham Park stunt in July, 1929, when a blaze started by the town's firefighters raged out of control and ripped through a makeshift 'house' they were supposed to be rescued from.

Canadian dental hygienist Lori Oschefski, who came across the story when researching her family tree, is campaigning for a permanent memorial at the scene of the tragedy and has won the backing of Kent Fire and Rescue Service.

Now Medway Council appears to be on board too, judging by an email sent to the 50-year-old Ontario native by greenspace development manager Chris Valdus. It reads: "As part of a major funding package for Gillingham Park, Medway Council included a sum to incorporate a memorial to the lives lost in the tragedy.

"This funding was unfortunately not secured, but the council is reviewing implementing a smaller scheme and – subject to budget availability – will be including a memorial as this was a major event in the history of the park."

The Fireman's Wedding display was a popular annual attraction and would culminate every year with the fire brigade 'rescuing' volunteers from a three-storey structure cobbled together with wooden beams for the frame and tarpaulin for the walls.

It was rigged to catch fire, but on the day of the tragedy the flammable liquids were triggered too early and spectators were confronted with the horror of many of the children and adults burning or jumping to their deaths. One of those who perished in the blaze was 12-year-old Navy cadet Eric Edward Cheeseman, whom Ms Oschefski later discovered was the nephew of her grandfather, William Cheeseman.

She told KOS Media she was keeping her fingers crossed that the planned memorial for the 15 victims – including three firefighters – would eventually see the light of day.

"I'm encouraged by recent communications from Mr Valdus acknowledging the importance of this event in the history of Gillingham," she said. "However, it's not 100 per cent and there's still a chance for this not to happen, especially with budget cuts.

"While this acknowledgement is very much appreciated and a step in the right direction, it's my understanding that his recommendation is still subject to budget approval by councillors.

"At this crucial point it's extremely important to maintain all efforts to continue our campaign. Councillors will eventually have to vote to agree on the financing for a memorial, so I implore everyone who has an interest to contact their local representative and ask for their support."

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Disney sprinkles magic on Parisa's TV talent dream

SEASIDE songstress Parisa Tarjomani has set her sights on the big time after reaching the final four of a Disney Channel talent search.

The 16-year-old from Ramsgate is one of the stars of My Camp Rock 2 – a spin-off of the original Camp Rock film starring teen heartthrobs the Jonas Brothers – and if victorious will get to record her own music video.

Parisa, whose mother Sophia runs the Regency Productions performing arts school, will receive extra training from a host of expert mentors throughout the course of the show.

She said: "I love to sing and dance and I practise every day. My goal is to become a professional singer, so I hope my experience on the show will get me one step closer to my dream.

"I'm looking forward to working with all the mentors. It's going to be so much fun; I don't think I'll want it to end."

Parisa, who also plays in goal for the Hugin Vikings girls' football team, is already the singer-songwriter of a four-piece band called Kassette Kids.

TALENT: Parisa Tarjomani

As part of the filming for My Camp Rock 2, she performed a private gig for friends and family at Margate Winter Gardens on Thursday.

Disney Channel's Boel Ferguson said: "Disney has a fantastic heritage in discovering the next big thing. My Camp Rock 2 aims to set a young Briton on the road to stardom."

Rare donor op is daughter's lifeline

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A NEW method to make people with incompatible blood types able to donate kidneys to each other has let a mother make a life-saving gift to her daughter.

THANKS, MUM: Charli and Sharon

Charli Wheeler, 22, desperately needed a new kidney and her mother Sharon was willing to donate, but they had mismatched blood types. But that didn't stop the medical teams at Guy's Hospital in London. Virtually all incompatible kidneys will be rejected within minutes, but surgeons removed hostile antibodies from Charli's blood before the transplant to stop her body rejecting Sharon's organ.

The hospital says the breakthrough will boost the number of transplants that can be carried out, making it more vital than ever for people to get on the donation register.

The operation was carried out in April, 2009, and since then Charli's life has changed dramatically.

Her 51-year-old mum, from Orpington, said: "I didn't realise how much of her character she lost when she was on dialysis. It was like her life was ebbing away."

Her daughter was born on Christmas Day 1987 at Farnborough Hospital, but within hours was rushed to Great Ormond Street where she spent the first 21 months of her life. Among other complications, she had a poorly functioning kidney that got progressively worse through her teens, and she eventually underwent a transplant in 2002, using her dad's kidney.

It failed in 2005 and Charli has been desperate for another ever since. But then came the breakthrough.

A spokesman at Guy's said: "Charli's blood was removed prior to the transplant and basically 'washed' before being put back in.

"That cuts the hostile antibodies and reduces the chances of rejection. It is an amazing procedure. We've done about 40 so far, but this technique will open the doors to many more transplants as it is one more obstacle removed from the list of possible problems."

Sharon said: "I couldn't believe it when the surgeons told me there was a possibility I could donate. We knew from the first time that I wasn't a match and I was astounded there was this new chance. I didn't think twice."

There were two stages to the procedure which started with Charli taking drugs to suppress antibody production. The second stage, similar to dialysis, saw her plasma removed and replaced. Because plasma contains antibodies its removal means antibody levels in the blood will fall.

Consultant transplant surgeon Geoff Koffman said: "Transplants like this are rare at the moment but we're hoping to offer this treatment to many more people in the future.

"More than 10,000 people in the UK are awaiting a transplant and 1,000 die each year as there aren't enough organs, so it's imperative we keep looking at new ways to do things."

• ***Anyone wishing to become a donor can visit www.organdonation.nhs.uk.***

Sky's the limit at jazz shows

STAR names from the world of jazz are performing in Thanet this weekend as part of the Big Sky Jazz Festival.

The streets of Margate will be alive with the sound of music until Sunday night, when the event wraps up.

Top names in the genre will be performing during the event, which is presented by Margate Town Partnership in association with London's Vortex Jazz Club.

Free and paid concerts are taking place.

On Saturday the Christine Tobin Trio perform at the Harbour Café in Margate Old Town in what promises to be a highlight of the festival, which is sponsored by KOS Media.

The concert starts at 8pm and tickets cost £25, including a three-course meal.

Call the venue on 01843 290110 to book.

On Sunday, the final day of the festival, jazz standards and popular classics will be performed at Harbour Café at noon.

The full festival programme can be downloaded online at www.vortexjazz.co.uk or find out more at www.visitthanet.co.uk.

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Website aiming to make a difference

A FORMER television chief responsible for The Apprentice and Dragons' Den has teamed up with two Kent charities to launch a YouTube-style awareness website.

CHIPPIN' AWAY: A scene from the Canterbury Cathedral video

Dominic Vallely, who previously worked as commissioning editor and executive producer at the BBC, set up See the Difference so people could find out more about a charity's work before deciding whether to donate. The not-for-profit website is still in its infancy but has already attracted video clips from about 100 organisations, including the east Kent branch of the learning disability charity Mencap, and Canterbury Cathedral fundraising group the Canterbury Gift. A video promoting the latter – entitled Chippin' Away – describes how a donation of just £7 can help an apprentice stonemason learn how to maintain the ancient fabric of the cathedral.

Canterbury Gift chief executive Matthew Butler said: "It's an exciting opportunity for charities like us. We've got to be good at reaching out and getting our message to a wider audience.

"These days the internet is absolutely central because it's what an awful lot of people use to communicate, so it's important we don't allow ourselves to be left behind. It's too early to say how effective the site will be but we've already received hundreds of pounds in donations because of it. It's an interesting initiative."

A See the Difference survey of more than 2,000 people revealed that 51 per cent would be more likely to give money to charity if they knew exactly how the cash was going to be spent. Financial backers for the project include Microsoft and Virgin Money Giving.

Mr Vallely said: "We know people want to understand exactly where their money goes and to see how it will be used. We are bringing choice, real stories and the chance to know where your money goes. We want to bring charity to a new generation. In an era of global travelling, video messaging and Facebook, seeing the difference you can make is a natural next step."

Visit www.seethedifference.org for more information.

Young people demand to have their voices heard

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

CHILDREN should have more of a say in how their schools are being run, according to sixth formers invited to a Kent County Council cabinet meeting.

Year 12 pupils Rachel McCabe and Billy Harrison – who attend Valley Park Community School in Maidstone – told education chiefs last week that peer mentoring schemes needed to be extended to ensure every child in the county has a voice.

The youngsters were invited to the meeting to share their views on a survey of almost 40,000 primary and secondary schoolchildren in Kent, which covered topics including drinking, smoking and quality of life.

Among those in attendance were KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter and cabinet member for education Cllr Sarah Hohler. Rachel told them: "The survey said 49 per cent of people between the ages of 11-16 feel able to give their opinions on school issues – this is quite low. Sometimes I feel students aren't given the opportunity to say what they feel and are often afraid to step out and give their true opinion.

POINT OF ORDER: Billy and Rachel outside County Hall in Maidstone

"Better mentoring schemes and more one-to-one discussions between younger children and older teens will help them to share any issues they have and help them achieve the careers they want in future."

The Children and Young People of Kent survey was carried out by the National Foundation for Educational Research between October 5-December 4 last year, with separate questionnaires for primary and secondary pupils.

It concluded there are fewer children feeling sad or depressed at school, more who feel safe, more who enjoy going to school and fewer who are being bullied. The survey also found fewer young people were getting drunk, but Billy told the meeting he didn't believe that to be the case.

He said: "I don't think there's been much change in drinking habits but I think most people our age have started to drink indoors and in private places, whereas younger teenagers are still doing it in public and tarring us all with the same brush.

"Not all young people go out to drink, smoke and do drugs."

The results of the survey will help shape the Kent Children's Trust's Children and Young People's Plan for 2011-14. Cllr Hohler said she was impressed by Billy and Rachel's "enthusiasm and passion" and that it was a privilege to hear their views.

She added: "It is vital children and young people have their say – something they themselves value. KCC and its partners are committed to doing our best for them but it is essential they tell us what matters to them."

Reaching out to vulnerable

ABUSED children, deprived adults and people suffering mental health problems are the focus of a new NHS strategy launched to ensure those at risk get help.

The three-year plan, drawn up by NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent, promotes mental health and well-being and set outs ways to support the most vulnerable.

Priorities for children, young people, the elderly, mental health sufferers and prison inmates have been outlined in the strategy.

Dr Jonathan Sexton, assistant director for public health at NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent, said it was all about working together as a community.

"People are more vulnerable to common mental health problems if they are in debt, on a low income, unemployed, in poor housing, in poor health or isolated," he said.

"This strategy aims to focus on those groups who are most at risk of developing mental health problems and making sure help and support is there. A healthy lifestyle – exercise, eating healthily, drinking sensibly, not misusing drugs – having a job and having social networks can all help towards mental well-being.

"Mental health problems will affect one in four people at some time in their life so this can really touch everyone."

The strategy outlines commitments for the next three years, including improving care for children living in poverty or who have suffered abuse; helping adults in deprived communities; and tackling loneliness in older people.

A full version of the plan is available at www.easternandcoastalkent.nhs.uk.

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Paralympics opportunity for holiday attack victim

A FOOTBALLER who suffered brain damage at the hands of a gang of thugs while on holiday could represent Team GB at the London 2012 Paralympics, ***writes Steve Knight***.

MOTHER'S PRIDE: Robbie Hughes with mum Maggie

Robbie Hughes, 29, was on the verge of signing for Ryman Premier Division side Bromley FC when, while on holiday in Malia in June, 2008, he was beaten with such brutality that his skull caved in.

The former Crystal Palace youth academy player was given just 48 hours to live but has made a remarkable recovery and has now earned the chance to impress coaches of the British Paralympic team.

Mr Hughes' mother, Maggie, said: "Robert has come such a long way. He had to have half his skull removed after the attack to try to save his life, then we had to wait to see if he would live or die.

"When he awoke from the coma he was paralysed down one side and couldn't speak, eat or even move. So to potentially be offered a place in the British Paralympics team is an absolute honour.

"But this tells a greater story to all victims of crime or serious injury, and that is that there can be a goal at the end of the tunnel if we all work as a team."

Remarkable

Mr Hughes made several appearances for Bromley and Welling United last season but decided to stop playing so he could concentrate on his rehabilitation.

However, news of his remarkable recovery reached the office of Jeff Davis, the FA's national manager for disability football, who has invited him to try out for the Paralympics team. If selected, he could join the likes of former Everton youngster Michael Barker, 22, who scored four goals against the USA to help Team GB win bronze at the Paralympic World Cup in May. Mrs Hughes said the potential call-up marked a huge turnaround for her son, who now suffers from memory loss, obsessive compulsive disorder and fits.

She added: "At the beginning we had to do everything for Robert and it was so hard to see my son that way. We had to get him motivated at the beginning, it looked like he had lost the will to live."

Mrs Hughes now runs the Please Enjoy, Don't Destroy campaign to help victims and their families deal with crime or serious injury abroad. Visit www.pedd.org.uk for more information.

• FIVE men accused of causing Robert Hughes' injuries while on holiday in Malia have appealed against a High Court decision to extradite them to Greece.

The alleged crime went unpunished at the time due to a legal loophole that says offences must be reported within 48 hours of taking place.

Curtis Taylor, 20; Daniel Bell, 21; Sean Branton, 20; and George Hollands, 22; all from Surrey; and Benjamin Herdman, 20, from Sussex, all face allegations of causing GBH to Mr Hughes but say they are innocent. High Court judges dismissed an earlier appeal against extradition but the case has now gone to the Supreme Court.

A sixth man – Joseph Bruckland, 20, from Surrey – is due to have a separate hearing related to the same case.

DISGRUNTLED passengers have given the thumbs down to bus services in Medway, with only 46 per cent saying they offer value for money. The statistic, revealed in a survey by customer watchdog Passenger Focus, places Medway's buses as joint worst out of the 14 areas taking part. The figures show nearly 40 per cent of passengers were 'very dissatisfied' with the service.

Medway scored highest in 'on the bus' factors, with 94 per cent satisfied with the ease of getting on and off, 92 per cent happy with information provided, and 88 per cent pleased with availability of seats. Safety is not a concern, with 87 per cent feeling drivers kept to an appropriate speed, and the same number agreeing they felt safe from accidents.

FOOTBALL fans may have turned over a new leaf and boosted England's chances of hosting the 2018 World Cup, according to Dartford MP Gareth Johnson.

The new Tory MP raised a parliamentary question by asking how many British nationals were arrested in South Africa during the World Cup finals. Not one was arrested for football-related violence during the tournament.

Mr Johnson said: "Not for a generation have we seen such exemplary behaviour from English fans.

"It is refreshing that it was only on the pitch that we let ourselves down and not off it. I hope Fifa take this in to account when deciding on the venue for the 2018 World Cup finals."

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FIFTY cats are in need of new owners after being rescued. Staff at Happy Endings Animal Sanctuary, near Sevenoaks, were called to a house in Dartford in September, 2009, after neighbours reported dozens of kittens running loose in the area.

Rescuers spent months laying traps and are now looking to re-home the felines. Sanctuary founder Chris Johns said: "It was quite a shock. There were cats everywhere – in outbuildings, undergrowth and bushes. They hadn't been neutered and the situation was out of control."

Mr Johns and sanctuary co-founder Terry Kemp set traps baited with sardines. Mr Kemp said: "This is a perfect illustration of why cat owners should get their pets neutered."

The cats and kittens are now in need of new homes.

Contact Mr Johns on 07809 721309, Mr Kemp on 07821 318241, or email happyendings247@googlemail.com if you can help.

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Kiwi fruit hair to stay if trials are a success

EXPERIMENTS are under way at a secret location to see if it is possible to grow kiwi fruit in Kent, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

A major company, with a base in Canterbury, is hoping to harness the changes in our climate to grow the fruit commercially and tap into a market worth £20 million a year in the UK.

The hairy fruit – more usually grown in New Zealand, Italy, Greece and Chile – is a rich source of vitamins C, E and some vitamin A, plus an omega-3 fatty acid.

Now staff at Worldwide Fruits have started tests at a secret east Kent location to see if kiwi fruit can be produced in sufficient quantities in the Garden of England to make it commercially viable within two years.

Technicians are using a hectare's worth of vines brought from Italy and Greece in May. The company say the vines are thriving so far, thanks to the expertise of New Zealand kiwi fruit growers.

Worldwide Fruit technical director Tony Harding said: "It's another example of our international co-operative joint ventures. The 1,200 vines are safely in the ground. The variety planted are green Hayward kiwis.

"For 2011, there are plans to plant yellow-flesh kiwis – which are becoming popular with consumers – and to introduce some of the latest red-flesh varieties."

Fruit development technologist Caroline Ashdown said: "It's a new experience for us but we're confident it will be successful as we get to understand the vines' physiology. They need good pollination, but don't suffer from mildew or canker like other deciduous fruit."

Kiwi vines grow so fast that when mature their growth can almost be measured daily. As a result, and following practice used elsewhere in the world, they are trailed on wires strung between supports.

Harvesting is expected to take place in October.

FRUITFUL: Caroline Ashdown trains a Hayward kiwi vine

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Sowing seeds to help disadvantaged

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A FARM run by young people with profound special needs has launched a £250,000 fund-raising drive to help them gain further experience in the workplace.

Monkshill Farm, near Faversham, is owned by the John Townsend Trust, which provides 24-hour care for deaf children and young adults, as well as those with severe behavioural difficulties.

Already home to a range of animals including cows, pigs, sheep and hens, the charity now plans to open an on-site shop to give its workers an extra opportunity to interact with the public.

Marketing officer Dean Walker-McKenzie described the farm as a "wonderful alternative" for children who have difficulty learning traditional subjects.

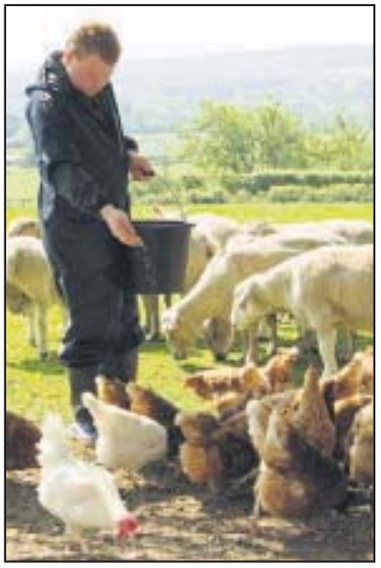
integration

He added: "We care for many children who can't fulfil the Government standard of five GCSEs so we have instead moved towards a vocational way of teaching.

"Working with livestock and taking on certain responsibilities has helped calm down some really erratic behaviour, and some of our young people have responded fantastically well to being outside with the animals.

"We're now looking to set up a farm shop so we can invite the community in and help with their integration.

"We can't let our young people take up voluntary positions in high street shops because we can't always be there to support them.



RESPONSIBILITY: Monkshill Farm helps young people with special needs to gain valuable work experience for themselves

"But if we can support them with our own facilities it helps with their development and it helps the local community understand the challenges the charity faces."

Founded in 2008, the John Townsend Trust incorporates the Margate-based Royal School for Deaf Children and the Westgate College for Deaf People, and also provides a range of community living services.

The charity is named after the Rev John Townsend, who founded the Royal School's predecessor – the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb Children of the Poor – in 1792.

Mr Walker-McKenzie said the trust had applied for funding for the farm shop from several different organisations, and was appealing for extra donations from local businesses and individuals.

About £3,500 has been raised so far from recent farm open days.

He added: "We had hoped our fundraising drive would really kick off with a royal visit from Sophie, Countess of Wessex last May but unfortunately that didn't go according to plan because she fell ill and had to pull out.

"We're hoping she'll be able to come at some point in the future but in the meantime we're looking for donations from every level because we really do need as much help as possible."

• ***Visit www.johntownsendtrust.org for more information.***

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Martha is hosting an **80s Exercise Extravaganza** on Saturday 24 July.

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Dressing up is optional while taking part costs **£5 per person. All proceeds** go to Martha. Spectators are welcome and refreshments will be available throughout the morning.

The **80s Exercise Extravaganza** takes place from **9am to 12pm** at Warden House Primary School, Deal.

To register your interest or to find out more call Carol Baalham on 01304 610447 or email CarolBaalham@marthatrust.org.uk

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By NICK AMES
nick.ames@kosmedia.co.uk

FIREPOWER: Archaeologists believe they have unearthed parts of flamethrower meant to be used to flush out German trenches during WWI

Fire in the trenches

Remains of secret WWI flamethrower built by British uncovered on site of Somme battlefield

EVIDENCE of a long-forgotten British secret weapon aimed at shortening the war in the trenches is gradually coming to light along the Somme Valley in northern France – scene of unimaginable slaughter in 1916.

Parts of a giant flamethrower, which would have engulfed the German World War One frontline in a blistering inferno, have been unearthed by archaeologists who now believe they can pin-point the exact location of the massive weapon, which still buried under tonnes of earth.

It was destroyed by German shellfire before it could ever be used – and three similar weapons were never deployed in action.

Royal Engineers, based at Chatham, had designed the device that could hurl 1,000 gallons of burning oil at the enemy.

Carnage

But it needed more than 300 men to manoeuvre it into position along the British lines.

And it was while this was being done that German shelling – purely coincidentally – hit the working parties.

Troops ran for cover, abandoning the flamethrower which was buried as the ground erupted amidst the carnage of exploding shells.

French historian Frederick Hadley, who is curator of a museum specialising in the Battle of the Somme in the town of Peronne, said parts of the 'First World War: Shock and Awe' weapon had come to light recently.

"This flamethrower had been known about via military records but no physical evidence had ever emerged as to its location," he said.

"It was supposed to go into action on July 1, 1916 – the opening day of the Battle of the Somme, near the village of Mametz.

"But as it was being bought into the line shellfire dropped on the troops bringing it into position – and it needed 300 of them.

"As the soldiers tried to get away from the explosions the device was abandoned and buried as the ground was churned over and over by the shells.

"There had been reports of the incident but no actual artefacts recovered – until now.

"Excavations of top soil have recovered the valves which would have regulated the flow of oil to be ignited – but the main hose has never been found.

"However, archaeologists think they know where it is and are seeking for help in the form of finance and the necessary earth movers to bring it to light."

The secret weapon was developed by the Royal Engineers and the man at the front charged with its deployment was a major called William Livens.

The fuel would have been ignited as it left the nozzle of the hose and projected towards the German lines – around 100 yards away.

Mr Hadley said: "If it had ever have been used it would have literally resulted in a wall of fire descending on the German trenches. The result would most likely have been utter panic."

The flames would also have resulted in oxygen being sucked into the fire, suffocating German soldiers who had taken cover in underground bunkers and previously secure dugouts.

But because of its unwieldiness, the number of men needed to operate it and the destruction of the prototype the three similar weapons being produced were never deployed.

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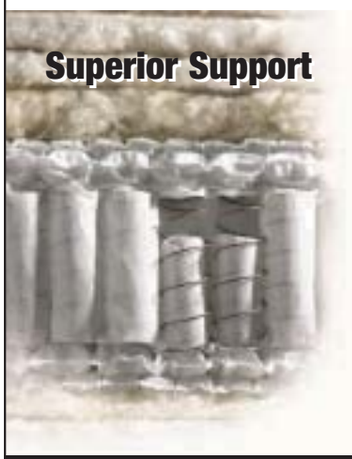

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Asian hornet invasion new threat to humble honey bee

Picture: GARY ALPERT AT EN.WIKIPEDIA

PREDATOR: It is feared hornets from France could damage county's honey bee population

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

KILLER hornets from across the Channel could be driving honey bees from their hives.

The giant insects – around four times the size of the British bee – are believed to be travelling from France and forcing the small honey bee from its home.

In scenes more likely to be seen in a horror film, the hornets hover in front of a hive, picking off their victims before ripping off the heads, wings and legs and feeding the body to their young.

The rest of the bee colony is then weakened, leaving the hornets free to loot the hive.

Picture: HORNETBOY1970 AT EN.WIKIPEDIA

WINGSPAN: The violent Asian hornet predator is four times the size of a UK honey bee

Although bee-lovers warned of their potential arrival to the UK just months ago, wildlife expert Kerry King, from Hythe, believes they may have already arrived.

"There's a hive in Sandling Park which has had honey bees for 10 years, but in February they suddenly left," he said.

"Pesticides aren't used there so it couldn't be that, and the bees disappeared so suddenly.

"It wouldn't be hard for these hornets to come over from France. If there is a change in wind direction they could be swept across – it's only 21 miles. They could even come across on the ferries."

This new predator, which is two inches long with a three-inch wingspan, is the Asian hornet, or vespa velutina nigrithorax, first seen in France in 2004.

The species is thought to have arrived in Bordeaux from China in a consignment of pottery designed for horticultural trade.

In 2007, apiaries around the French region began to see up to 70 per cent losses in bee colonies and it was soon discovered that the monster insects, in groups of up to 50, had been on a killing spree.

One hornet can kill up to 40 honey bees in a minute – a group of them up to 30,000 in a few hours.

Mr King said: "There are three things going against our honey bees; pesticides, parasites and these hornets. It's going to have a detrimental effect on our economy if there are no honey bees to carry out pollination."

A third of foodstuffs are dependant on pollination by honey bees, which also provide more than 50 per cent of the pollination of wild plants that other wildlife depends on.

While Asian bees have evolved to cope with the attacks, where some 500 bees will mob the hornet causing it to overheat, the European honey bee is unlikely to survive.

Three months ago experts from honey health specialist Vita said the hornet threat to bees was spreading rapidly through France and would soon be in the UK.

Scientist's fear for 'undiscovered' flowers

THOUSANDS of rare flowers may go extinct before they have even been discovered, warns a conservationist from the University of Kent.

Dr David Roberts says factors such as habitat loss and climate change make it all the more important for scientists to get their hands on the estimated 35,000 to 70,000 flowering plant species not yet officially recorded.

A lecturer at the university's Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology, Dr Roberts – who has also studied the demise of the dodo and the woolly mammoth – told KOS Media there was still a lot to learn from undiscovered plant life.

He said: "We accumulate knowledge over time and frequently find new uses for the plants we discover.

"They also help us understand the system of the Earth better when it comes to how they capture rain and so on. Our time on this planet depends on plants and we still have a lot to learn about them, so we can't afford for tens of thousands to go extinct.

"We're still finding some amazing species that shocked people at first. For example the slipper orchid in the Andes had bright pink flowers the size of your hand, which nobody expected because they're mostly green.

"But most of the undiscovered plants now tend to be very localised, which is one of the reasons why they're so hard to find.

"We have an idea that there are between 35,000 and 70,000 plants waiting to be discovered, so we're going to have to search region by region to hopefully track them down."

Dr Roberts carried out his research in partnership with Dr Lucas Joppa from Microsoft Research, and Dr Stuart Pimm from the Nicholas School of the Environment in Durham, North Carolina.

The trio combined their own methodology with data from the World Checklist of Selected Plant Families at the Royal Botanic Gardens to calculate how many more plants remain undiscovered.

Dr Joppa said: "We calculated the number of species should grow by 10 to 20 per cent.

"This means there are between 10 and 20 per cent more undiscovered flowering plant species than previously thought – a finding that has enormous conservation implications."

The research carried out by the three scientists – entitled 'How many species of flowering plants are there?' – was published in the Royal Society journal, Proceedings of the Royal Society B.

Dr Pimm said the findings were all the more relevant as 2010 marks the International Year of Biodiversity.

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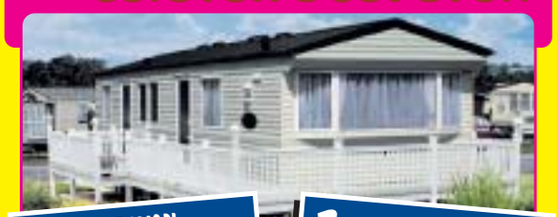

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Do you want to find out more about your local provider of NHS Community Services?

A Board Meeting held in public will take place on:
29 July 2010 starting at 2pm
Whitstable Umbrella Community Centre
St Marys Hall, Oxford Street, CT5 1DD

Prior to the Board Meeting, the following activities and information will be available:

- 11am - 12.30pm. An interactive display of information on our healthcare services and a chance to meet local clinical staff
- A demonstration of our new website and DVDs showcasing our services
- 1pm - 1.30pm. A chance to question senior NHS staff on a 'Question Time' panel
- Copies of the Agenda and papers will be available on our website, please visit www.eckcommunityservices.nhs.uk

For questions relating to the agenda please contact:
Jill Mackenzie
Tel: 01233 667840
Email: jill.mackenzie@eastcoastkent.nhs.uk

ENDANGERED: The adonis blue butterfly

Call for funding to safeguard wildlife

EXTRA investment is needed to halt the decline of biodiversity in Kent.

That's the claim of Cllr David Brazier, Kent County Council's deputy cabinet member for the environment.

Speaking at the annual conference of the National Association for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (NAAONB), Cllr Brazier said more was needed to prevent the 13,000 rare or threatened species in Kent being lost forever.

He told guests that over-development, intensive agriculture and inappropriate land management also posed serious risks to the biodiversity of the county.

Cllr Brazier said: "Perhaps it is time we started to look at biodiversity as not merely pretty but as something to properly value for the services it provides. Perhaps then we may get the commitment and resources we need to properly conserve and enhance it."

Cllr Brazier revealed there was also some good news: "Birds of prey have increased dramatically. Following dedicated management of our chalk grassland, we are also now seeing a recovery of our iconic adonis blue butterfly and we are just about managing to sustain our heath fritillary and Duke of Burgundy populations thanks to the hard work of the county's conservation bodies."

WIN! Books and designer glasses

IF YOU are looking forward to kicking back with a great read on holiday this year – this competition is for you.

Broadcast earlier this year, the hugely successful TV Book Club is back this summer with the TV Book Club, Summer Read.

Tune into More 4 on Sundays where anchor hosts Dave Spikey and Jo Brand will be on hand to help you pick the best books to relax with over the holiday season.

Throughout the eight-part series Dave and Jo will be joined by celebrity presenters and guests to review eight titles, chosen by a team of TV Book Club experts, with viewers invited to read along.

To celebrate the new show, Specsavers, which has funded the series, is giving away a set of books to a KOS Media reader, plus £150 of designer eyecare, including an eye examination, so the winner can enjoy their books while wearing the latest fashion frames. A runner-up will also receive a set of books worth £80.

The lucky winners can look forward to reading all eight books in the series: The Help, by Kathryn Stockett; The Man Who Disappeared, by Clare Morrall; The Legacy, by Katherine Webb; The Bed I Made, by Lucie Whitehouse; Stone's Fall, by Iain Pears; Ellis Island, by Kate Kerrigan; The Devil's Acre, by Matthew Plampin; and Weight of Silence, by Heather Gudenkauf.

To enter, simply answer this question:

Q) Which of the following is an anchor presenter on the TV Book Club?
A) Dave Spikey
B) Johnny Vaughan
C) Chris Evans

Send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Book Club Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is Thursday, August 5, 2010.

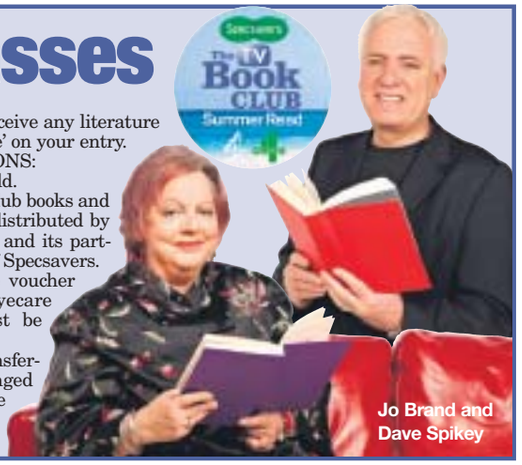
No purchase necessary.

For our full terms and conditions please visit www.kentnews.co.uk, or for a posted copy of the T&Cs call 01303 817073.

If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- One prize per household.
- Specsavers TV Book Club books and eyecare voucher will be distributed by Beattie Communications and its partner agencies, on behalf of Specsavers.
- Terms of the eyecare voucher are set out on the eyecare voucher itself and must be adhered to.
- This prize is non-transferable, cannot be exchanged and no cash alternative will be offered.



Jo Brand and Dave Spikey

CHECK MATE: The nation's finest chess players will battle it out for the British title

Chess masters in bid for UK crown

THE country's top chess players are arriving in Kent for the British Chess Championships.

It's the 97th time the championships have been held, and this year the University of Kent in Canterbury is playing host to the hundreds of competitors and spectators.

The tournament organised by the English Chess Federation, will be opened by Amanda Cottrell, chairman of Visit Kent.

Actor CJ de Mooi is also a singer and television presenter with extensive credits and is best known for his quiz show appearances on Eggheads where he is a regular member of the expert team.

He is also president of the English Chess Federation, and said: "It's an honour to be involved with the English Chess Federation at this time and this most prestigious event in our home calendar promises to be an exciting and inspiring experience.

"A great number of players consider the Championships as central to their season and we are delighted to see so many returning year after year for all the tournaments that make up this fantastic event.

"Chess in Britain is prospering at every level due to their tireless efforts."

It is the first time the event has been held in Kent since 1929, and among the more than 700 competitors will be England number one and Grandmaster, Micky Adams.

Also on hand will be experienced chess coach Nick Nixon, who will be teaching juniors for free.

And International Master Andrew Martin will also be available in the morning for individual or small group coaching of juniors who play only in the afternoon.

• ***The event runs from Sunday, July 25-Saturday, August 7. For more information go to http://www.britishchess2010.com.***

Call for ethnic representation

Equality council chief says more MPs are needed from minority backgrounds

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

PARLIAMENT needs to be more representative of the people it serves, says an Asian community leader taking part in an MP shadowing scheme.

Northfleet resident Gurvinder Sandher – director of the Kent Equality Cohesion Council – says the House of Commons should be home to more female and disabled members as well as those from black and ethnic minority (BME) backgrounds.

The bhangra dance club organiser was one of 31 applicants chosen from a group of more than 150 to take part in the shadowing scheme, organised by Operation Black Vote (OBV) in partnership with the Communities and Local Government department.

He has been paired up with newly-elected Conservative MP Andrew Stephenson, who represents the Pendle constituency in Lancashire.

Mr Sandher said: "There are less than 30 black and Asian MPs at the moment, but the House of Commons also needs more women and disabled people if it wants to be truly representative.

SCHEME: Northfleet's Gurvinder Sandher (left) with fellow Operation Black Vote participants Phillip Olanipekun and Jacqueline Kibacha, and MP Andrew Stunell

"I was born and bred in this country but growing up there were no Asian MPs in Parliament for me to look up to, and I think it's important that children have role models so they can aspire to follow in their footsteps.

"It also helps to have members of the BME community in Parliament because they can provide a different perspective on subjects that may affect the people they represent."

Kent is currently home to two MPs from an ethnic minority background, in Maidstone and The Weald representative Helen Grant, and Gillingham and Rainham member Rehman Chishti.

Mr Chishti was born in Pakistan while Mrs Grant, who took part in a previous shadowing scheme and is the Conservative's first black female MP, is of part-Nigerian descent.

Launching the scheme last week, Parliamentary Under Secretary Andrew Stunell admitted the House of Commons was still "disproportionately white".

He added: "This Government wants a fair society where race and ethnicity are no barriers to taking part.

"This scheme will provide 31 ambitious, ethically-diverse people with invaluable experience and guidance to help them make Parliament and local councils more truly reflect our communities.

"I'm looking forward to working with partners such as OBV and hope to one day sit alongside one of the participants in the House."

Last January more than 50 people – including Merlene Carrington from Medway – celebrated their appointments as magistrates under a similar scheme created by OBV and the Ministry of Justice.

Held on the same week as Martin Luther King Day in the United States, the ceremony was also attended by American civil rights activist the Reverend Al Sharpton and then-justice minister Bridget Prentice.

Magazine a voice for the young minority

SPIN-OFF: Nubia's sister magazine is aimed at young ethnic readers

A MAGAZINE celebrating the achievements of people from black and ethnic minority backgrounds has won funding to produce a youth version.

Nubia, which is based at Chatham dockyard's centre for creative business, is released bimonthly and read by an estimated 15,000 residents throughout Kent and the Thames Gateway region.

Created by mother-of-four Angela Asieba, the magazine has secured funding from the Big Lottery Fund and will now produce a youth spin-off edited by her son Jamaal.

He said: "At last we have a publication we can call our own, celebrating young people and their achievements. We are looking for writers, cartoonists, artists, poets, musicians or anyone else who has a story to tell."

A pre-launch edition of Nubia Youth is already available online – at www.nubiamagazine.co.uk– but the new publication will receive its official launch during Black History Month in October.

In the meantime, summer design workshops will be held at the Joiners Shop, Chatham dockyard, between 1-3pm on Thursday, August 26 and Friday, August 27.

The adult version of Nubia – named after the African region that was home to one of the earliest black civilisations – is available online as well as in libraries, community centres and places of worship.

It focuses on education, health and business issues and showcases black and ethnic minority people in a positive light.

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LETTERS

LETTER OF THE WEEK

University of the obvious

Fascinating news that Professor Clift and his Canterbury Christ Church University research team have discovered that group singing improves health and a sense of well-being in older people.

His team's "groundbreaking" research found that singing stops elderly people feeling isolated and anxious, improves their mood and helps them deal with depression.

But surely the same applies to less posh activities, like playing darts, going with mates to football, bingo, whist drives, bowling, rambling groups, flower-arranging, bell-ringing, knitting clubs.

It is the conviviality, feeling part of a group, having something to look foward to and making friends that offers positive benefits.

If Prof Clift and his team undertook their research with a local darts team, say, or even the over-60s 'bums and tums' afternoons, they would doubtless discover that the people involved also feel happy and better-connected. It seems so obvious that it really doesn't merit academic research.

Ann Horner, Whitstable

MP has wider responsibility

No doubt Mark Reckless MP is already feeling only too aware of being in the public eye, but his recent escapade in Parliament of drinking too much to be able to vote not only damages his reputation but that of Rochester and Strood as well.

People will now consider his personal conduct rather than the positions he adopts on our behalf. I'm sure MPs need a break from time to time, even in the working week, but there is a difference between conviviality and over-indulgence. Let's hope our MP learns the difference quickly, so he can show he understands what is meant by personal responsibility.

John Jones, Brompton

Hunting must not stalk back

We wish to bring attention to the undemocratic methods by which some MPs are planning to vote to repeal the Hunting Act, thus ignoring the wishes of the majority of their constituents.

We urge everyone to take this matter up with their MP to ensure the Hunting Act remains in place and that this form of animal cruelty never takes place on our soil again.

Brian Lamb and Michael Nightingale, Folkestone

Managing to do very little

Kent Police Authority chair Ann Barnes appears to object to Government plans that will make people such as herself directly accountable to council tax payers. She assumes she knows what's best for us. What arrogance.

Every year, KPA agrees an above-inflation increase for the police without ensuring we get value for money. Other than set the police rate, what does this rather secretive body do?

When I found it necessary to contact Ms Barnes on the subject of poor policing of anti-social behaviour, I received an acknowledgement from the chief executive who, in passing my letter to the Chief Constable, told me the KPA only handles complaints against senior officers and not day-to-day problems at local level. How on earth can the KPA assess policing needs in monetary terms when it isn't involved with such issues?

The end result for my letter was: the Chief Constable passed it to the area commander; the area commander passed it to the borough commander; the borough commander passed it to the rural policing unit; who advised that a supervisor would be in touch. And so my complaint was passed down to the very individual who was creating the problem. None of the senior officers followed it through. This is an indictment of Kent Police management that should have been handled properly by the KPA. Why did the Chief Constable not obtain a report on the outcome of this complaint? He wouldn't have got away with it in the private sector. While I don't believe the electorate should vote for the Chief Constable, I believe we should vote for all persons on the KPA, who should ensure the Chief Constable is responsible to them on all issues of concern to the public. Whether Ms Barnes likes it or not, this is a political issue – and rightly so.

William Amor, by email

OPINION: RAPED FOR A SECOND TIME

MALCOLM GILBERT, operations director of Gravesend-based Family Matters, says society ignores the victims of sexual abuse at its peril – and at a heavy price

I KNOW three things about childhood sexual abuse and rape services. First, there is little help out there for children and adults who have suffered rape or sexual abuse, except for charitable services like Family Matters.

It may surprise you to know that with the exception of a few forensic examination centres for rape victims dotted around the country, there are no specialist services available on the NHS.

People have to wait until they are ill before qualifying for help. Yet we have extensive services for drugs and alcohol, obesity and even smoking.

Second, the numbers of victims of rape and childhood sexual abuse are legion. The latest research published in The Lancet (Gilbert et al: 2009) tells us that between five and 10 per cent of girls and one to five per cent of boys suffer penetrative sexual abuse and that only 14 per cent of rapes are ever reported. Extrapolating Kent's rape figures, this means nearly 3,000 women are raped in the county each year. Family Matters saw 179 rape victims last year. A shocking quarter of them were under 16.

And third, Kent has only one, part-time, rape exam suite located in the Renton GUM Clinic in Darent Hospital. Get raped anywhere else in Kent and you are likely to be seen in a converted police house by a police doctor.

To the senior managers of KCC, the NHS and our new chief constable, I say, on behalf of victims: "This is not good enough and must change."

All our children and women folk (and some men) are at risk. We have to share the responsibility for stopping this abuse and helping those who have suffered it. It's in our collective interests to help them, as we are already paying. Did you know, for instance, that the Department of Health report on Women's Mental Health (2002) states that about 40 per cent of women accessing mental health services had been sexually abused? How much does that cost our collective purse? Not to mention the misery that could be averted by early intervention. So, we have a picture: doctors and nurses (at great expense) dragging drowned people out of the river and no-one upstream except Family Matters and its fellow charities working to stop them jumping in. What do victims of rape and childhood sexual abuse need in Kent?

They need the specialist charities to be funded to support them throughout Kent and provide outcome-assessed deliverables. This level of abuse is too serious to be left to fundraising and the savings too great, especially to the NHS mental health and GP services, to avoid. Rape victims need a new Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) in the east and coastal area of the county, to run in tandem with the Renton GUM clinic SARC at Darent Hospital. It must be managed as a victim-centered facility by a specialist rape and sexual abuse charity with victim-linked governance. A haven from their trauma – not a clinic for the obtaining of evidence. We must move away from what the criminal justice system thinks it wants to an emphasis on the victim's experience, as recommended by the Baroness Stern inquiry into rape investigation (2010). As the commissioners of the NHS collectively draw up their chairs and take a breath to lecture me on pressures of competing needs, financial strictures, and the dark assassins of funding cuts stalking their corridors, I raise my hand and ask them to hear this.

North Kent PCT is about to commission £100,000 on helping people give up smoking.

Unlike sexual abuse and rape, smoking is a lifestyle choice and people can give up without help – I know, I've done it. People who were given no choice should be your priority.

Oh, and one more thing, health commissioners, should you care to listen, I can show you equally compelling links to health savings in taking preventative measures with victims of sexual abuse and rape – see your own report on Women's Mental Health, cited above.

• Family Matters is the UK's largest specialist childhood sexual abuse and rape counselling and support charity, seeing nearly 700 children and adults a year.

KOS media COMMENT

Labour contenders aim to restore faith

APPARENTLY all hope was not lost for Labour in a general election which saw Kent's political map turn blue.

Senior party politicians are determined to work out what went wrong and this week it was Ed Miliband's turn, knocking on people's doors and asking outright what his party needs to do to win back support.

As the younger of two brothers locking horns in a battle to become Labour's new leader, Mr Miliband believes he can fight the new coalition Government and win.

But before taking on the big boys, he knows he needs to win over a county that has lost faith in Labour – a county which is now outright Tory, not just in Parliament but at a local level, too.

Turning things around will be no mean feat and despite having a good deal more charisma than former Labour leader Gordon Brown, it will take more than that to convince voters to swap allegiance.

And if the new coalition Government ends up doing a good job, Kent's Tory MPs could easily retain their seats at the next general election. It seems this county is a thorn in Labour's side, an area the party was determined to win over before the election and is already targeting in preparation for the next one.

But the fact our county is a major focus for politicians can only be a good thing as the parties battle it out for Kentish votes.

Festival fun will put oyster woes to bed

POOR Whitstable has waited a whole year for its celebrated Oyster Festival to return, only for the town's famous shellfish to contract a bad case of herpes.

It's not the same as the human strain of the disease – the marine equivalent can be far more harmful, killing thousands of oysters in one fell swoop.

But don't let it spoil the party. The festival is still going ahead and there'll be more than enough oysters to go around – and don't worry, they won't have a disease.

Backing the wrong horse

I was appalled to read that the estimated cost of the Ebbsfleet horse has risen from £2 million to £10m. I was prepared to accept £2m, but £10m in these hard times?

With that amount the NHS could carry out 13,900 cataract operations, or 1,900 hip replacements.

Perhaps a local poll should be carried out, asking people whether they would sooner see the £10m spent on the statue or given to Darent Valley Hospital.

Marc Hurstfield, Northfleet

A tough life at the chalkface

A teacher's life is not a cushy one – anything but. As the husband of a wife who taught for 40-plus years, I wish to congratulate CW Prigmore of New Romney on the content and tone of their letter.

Everything CW Prigmore wrote is true and I support this writer wholeheartedly. Indeed, try it yourself Mr C Webb, whose comments sparked CW Prigmore's letter. I have experienced, briefly, the stressful side of a teacher's life. I helped with two school outings – not a good idea. Within 10 minutes I had a splitting headache both times. I was looking after boys, full of exuberance and mischief, in the lunch hour. They were two of the longest hours of my life.

You need a degree in psychology, understanding in spades, oodles of patience, ace powers of negotiation, tolerance in triplicate, bags of kindness and firmness of granite.

Yes, teachers get long holidays, considerably shortened by preparations for the new term. Lessons have to be prepared for the next day, work marked and homework set. Add to this the wads of forms and reports for a Government that wants total control, which keeps moving the goalposts, and insisting on health and safety and political correctness beyond belief.

How can a teacher's life be cushy? I suggest Mr Webb tries teaching for a couple of days, then he'll see how his comments were out of order.

John Gamet, Keston

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400
For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

CHADBAND
Matthew and Sharon Chadband of Margate celebrate the birth of their son Alfie Liam Chadband on 13th July 2010.

CHRISTIANOU
Andreas and Melissa of Canterbury proudly announce the birth of their beautiful son, Theo Stanley, on 21st June 2010.

COOMBES
Natasha and David Coombes celebrate the birth of their son Archie Jay William Coombes on the 11th July 2010. Brother to Lois.

DUNMALL
Neil and Louise would like to announce the birth of their son Benny, born 7th July 2010 at Pembury Hospital.

HONEY
Elena and Alan Honey celebrate the birth of their son Philip David Honey on 9th July 2010 weighing 10lbs 1oz.

IQBAL
Charlotte and Shahid from Canterbury are delighted and very proud to announce the birth of their beautiful baby girl, Ameera Mai Iqbal, born on 15th July 2010.

JOHAR
Navdeep and Jatinder celebrate the birth of their daughter Devina Kaur on 24th June 2010 weighing 8lb 8oz. Baby sister to Riya Kaur. Blessings from grandparents the Johar and Chhatwal family.

LARBEY
Alan and Claire of Canterbury are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Harriet Abigail, on 3rd July 2010. A new sister for Ben and Katie.

SAADA
Jeremy and Maria Saada celebrate the birth of their son Joseph Thomas Saada on the 11th July 2010.

DEATHS

BENMORE
Jean Doreen, died 15th July 2010. A loving wife, mother and nan. Mum, I've lost my mum, my friend, my brick. I love you so much, but know you are with dad now and happy. Love you always and forever, Susan, John, Dean, Ryan and Eileen.

BOWDEN
Richard Brian Bowden of Canterbury, died 11th July 2010, aged 82. Much loved father, grandfather and friend. Formerly of Debenhams, Canterbury. Funeral at Barham Crematorium, Friday 30th July 2010 at 2pm. No flowers please, donations if wished to Mencap.

DOLING
Doreen Doling died peacefully at Maidstone Hospital on July 13th 2010 after a long illness. Funeral Service will be at Vinters Park Crematorium Maidstone at 13.15 on 28th July 2010. Enquiries to Paul Rowlands, Tel 01622 662661.

FIELDER
Alice Fielder. To a wonderful wife and mum. You will be in our hearts forever, and the world will be a sadder place without you. Paul, Kerry and Dean.

GARRETT
Robert Garrett of Hadlow, Tonbridge, on 5th July 2010. Dearly loved Father of Lee, Melanie and Dawn-Marie, grandfather to Davinia, Jonathan, Niall, Somer-Lily, Tyrese, Tiana, Kieron and Louisa-May. Brother to Jacqueline, Maurice, Jennifer, Marion and Colin. He was much loved and will be missed by all his family and friends.

GRAY
Gerald Alexander Gray "Gerry" 11th February 1946 - 11th July 2010. Passed away following a long constant courageous battle against cancer. An inspiration to us all. Devoted husband to Sue, beloved father to Catherine (Boo) and Daniel, father-in-law to Steve and Alison, grandad to Jack and Rebekah, brother to Andrew.

PRYCE
Alfred Alexander Pryce passed away suddenly on the 12th July 2010, aged 85 years. Donations to the Macular Disease Society c/o Chittendens, Hythe.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

Here's a few cuts

We are being told by Westminster that drastic cuts are needed to get us out of the financial problems facing the country.

So why do we need three MPs for Medway? Surely it only requires one, given the small area Medway covers?

The next area where cuts must be made is the number of councillors. There seem to be far too many and as one rarely sees them in the area they're supposed to represent, are just a waste of our money. A cut of 50 per cent would be a realistic target. No doubt these cuts would make major savings, especially with a big reduction in the number of MPs. I now hear that – without reference to the inhabitants of Rainham, which includes Wigmore – that it is to be renamed as Gillingham East.

Eric Hartup, Gillingham

The end of respect

Teachers have a very stressful job, with little or no support from some parents, in fact many have been attacked by parents for disciplining their child.

This would never have happened years ago. Some people just have no respect for their elders or those in authority. I believe this is one reason why we have so many unemployed, their attitude towards everything is deplorable. As far as teachers are concerned, they are (or should be) CRB checked. I believe everyone should be checked before employment begins. I also believe that everyone's DNA should be registered on a database.

If you've done nothing wrong, you've nothing to hide. All who work with the public, whether they are young or old, should have these checks. That would make the world a safer place.

C Russell, Ramsgate

Rights and wrong

What on earth has happened to this country since Humans Rights Act came in?

People now are allowed to be obscene, rude, vulgar, and even verbally attack our royal family without any reprimand.

Teachers have just about come to the end of their tether, they are no longer allowed to discipline pupils, not even to raise their voice to keep a child under control without a parent or another either attacking the teacher or verbally abusing them for doing so.

No wonder teachers sometimes lose their rag. This has to stop, as the outcome of this means other pupils are not being taught as well as they should. Thirty years ago a naughty child stood out like a sore thumb. It is now the decent, law-abiding students who stand out. This is not the fault of the teacher, but of parents who persist in not giving their children discipline at home and do not support teachers, but also the Government for allowing the Human Rights Act to be taken out of proportion and make the offenders look innocent and the innocent look guilty.

Teachers are not guilty of misconduct most of the time, but the children and parents are.

Let's hope the new Government pulls out of Europe and give us back law and order in this country, strict discipline in schools and punishment when needed.

Michael Webb, Broadstairs

Egg on our faces

Every day we hear of brave young men being killed in Afghanistan – now more than 300 dead of the world's finest soldiers.

I don't know if the war is right or wrong. One thing I do know is that unelected bureaucrats in Brussels, faceless men in grey suits, are controlling this country. While they worry about how to sell eggs – by the dozen or by weight – the European Union is making our food even dearer, with a 175-page draft on food labelling, and more to come. Come on, coalition Government, save us money and close this European Parliament down.

To all MPs and MEPs – wake up. Don't land up with egg on your faces. Do you know what bad eggs smell like? Well, they are alive and well in Brussels.

Trevor Shonk, Ramsgate

Headless chickens

I was disappointed there was no appetite to properly discuss the implications for Thanet in the many coalition proposals outlined on the council agenda on July 13, and in particular item 13, annex one.

The evidence of headless chickens running the country was manifested not least in announcing that "the local PCT will act as a champion for patients and commission those residual services that are best taken at a wider level, rather than directly by GPs".

Before the ink had dried and just as the detail had reached Thanet, PCTs have been told they are to be abandoned and the £80 billion budget is to be handed over to GPs to manage. Even more importantly, there was no stomach for debate at council on the dilution of Labour's vetting and barring legislation. This was set to be fully implemented on July 26 but was halted by another Tory/Lib Dem knee-jerk, headless chicken decision on June 12.

In my view, there is nothing more important than registering adults who want to work with children and vulnerable adults. The original scheme was instigated after the murder in 2002 of two schoolgirls in Soham by Ian Huntley, a school caretaker who slipped through the system.

Anyone working either regularly (more than once a month) or intensively (three times or more a month) needed to register with the Independent Safeguarding Authority on top of the usual CRB checks. The previous cumbersome three-part list 99 would have been replaced and the £64 fee was to be waived for volunteers.

Anyone hearing the stories of people whose whole lives and relationships have been ruined by earlier childhood abuse would surely hope our own council could give five minutes to sending a strong message to Government to keep essential legislation that protects the most vulnerable. Instead, many Thanet council members barely glanced at what was probably the most significant report to come to us for some time.

Cllr Iris Johnston, chair, North Thanet Labour Party

A Godless society

As their star sinks over the horizon and Britain comes even closer to being a Godless society, what are the leaders of the Anglican Church doing? The equivalent of rearranging the deckchairs on the Titanic.

They obsess over minutae, just as Jesus said of the Scribes and Pharisees: "Blind guides swallowing camels and straining over gnats." Having a form of Godly devotion, but proving false to it.

Maybe they would receive God's approval and blessing if they actually adhered to Biblical teaching.

But no, it's 'we think this' and 'we think that', never 'the Bible says this' or 'Jesus said that'.

They have turned Christ into a simpering yes-man, willing to accede to all that's demanded of him, rather than the Biblical Christ who said only doing the will of the Father would gain salvation. Hence the modern belief we can all be Christians without making any effort whatsoever.

As true Christianity comes increasingly under attack, who can be trusted to champion the cause? Certainly not the Anglican Church's hand-wringers, who have no answer to anything.

In a modern world even more in need of spiritual and Biblical guidance, they squabble over who should be in charge, have the grandest seat, the finest clothes – the modern Scribes and Pharisees.

Phil Granger, West Malling

In from the cold

The number of people facing fuel poverty is on the increase and vulnerable households are particularly affected. That's why I am backing Macmillan Cancer Support's campaign to freeze out fuel poverty for cancer patients. Feeling colder and having to spend more time at home during recovery mean many cancer patients have higher fuel bills at a time when household income has often dropped. No-one living with cancer should be left out of pocket because they can't afford to heat their home. Macmillan is urging the Government to extend the winter fuel payment to cancer patients in need.

This annual payment is paid to everyone over 60, but could bring immediate relief to vulnerable cancer patients. Join the campaign at www.macmillan.org.uk/fuelpoverty.

Macmillan can help if you're struggling to cope with the financial effects of cancer. Visit www.macmillan.org.uk or call 0808 808 0000.

Debbie Tebbutt, Macmillan Cancer Support

Lifeblood of NHS

With the World Cup behind us and the holiday season in full swing, NHS Blood and Transplant would like to thank everyone who took the time to donate blood over the last few weeks.

During the 2006 World Cup, blood stocks were at the lowest level for five years. Throughout this year's World Cup finals blood stocks were closely monitored and thanks to our donors levels remained normal.

However, we'd like to remind donors we still need you to give blood over the coming weeks. During the summer, stocks can take a seasonal dip. As schools break up and families go on holiday, it's easy to forget the appointment.

We're asking people to keep their appointments and if they do need to change them, call 0300 123 23 23.

Currently 7,000 units of blood are needed every day and regular donations are vital as donated blood cannot be stockpiled. Thank you.

Jon Latham, NHS Blood and Transplant

Keep on running

I would like to thank the 248 runners who took part in this year's Virgin London Marathon and raised £515,000 for the Children's Trust. The trust provides care, education and therapy for children with multiple disabilities and complex health needs, and rehabilitation services to children with an acquired brain injury.

The trust has places in many events and would love to hear from runners who would like to take part in the following: Adidas 5K Women's Challenge (September 5), Royal Parks Half Marathon (October 10) and ING New York Marathon (November 7).

These events have tight deadlines to sign up, so check our website for details and register now – www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk.

For those considering applying for a place in October's ballot for the 2011 Virgin London Marathon, please consider running for the Children's Trust. We have plenty of other challenges including walks, treks and cycle rides in the UK and overseas. Find out more at ww.thechildrenstrust.org.uk/events.

Bryony Eida, Children's Trust

Any volunteers?

I am writing on behalf of the Meningitis Trust to thank everyone who took part in the Asics British 10K in London for us. Our 33 runners took on the sweltering heat and are on track to raise over £6,000. We offer support to anyone affected by the disease and are dedicated to raising awareness of meningitis and its symptoms. We rely on voluntary donations and are always looking for people to help with the work of the trust by getting involved in fundraising. Visit our website for more information about what we do and how you can help, www.meningitis-trust.org.

Roza Woodley, Meningitis Trust

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By Phone call **FREE** on **0800 032 9100**

If you have a photo you're 6 times more likely to get responses! Simply text your solo picture along with your 6 digit mailbox number (space) 4 digit pin number under your photo, to 0779 366 6363. Or send by email to: support@jmediauk.co.uk with your Mailbox & pin number. For message collection call 0906 515 7114*

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By MOBILE to ads with a symbol, text **KOS** followed by the box number of the advertiser you wish to respond to & send to **78850*** **eg** KOS(space)123456(space)Hi saw your ad would like 2 know more about u. Then send to 78850. It's that easy! (£1.50 per message sent)

BROWSE through all ads incl. **NEW** advertisers Call: 0906 515 7112*

WOMEN seeking men

Guys Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT883 To : 65125 (T&C's below)

TALL slim, attractive lady, late 60's, genuine, likes socialising, meals out, music, animals, seeks male, 65-70 for company, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380476**

SENSITIVE caring female, likes meals out, countryside, coast, driving, gardening, seeks male, 58-64 for caring relationship maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380450**

CAROLE 52, long chestnut hair, attractive, 5ft 4ins, medium build, likes travel, animals, countryside, seeks Scottish male, under 57 with hair. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380448**

FUN young looking, attractive female, 49, GSOH, kind, caring, seeks male, 45-55 for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338267**

BRIGHT bubbly, curvy blonde, bit of a romantic, seeks loving male to share the fun loving side of life with. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338461**

FRAN young 52, happy go lucky, warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind male for a loving relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338457**

WANTED! Good looking, well built, honest male to make gorgeous curvy brunette, 28, happy again. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338455**

SUE 39, petite fun loving brunette, seeks tall, outgoing male who is full of surprises to keep her entertained. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338453**

DIANE 42, petite size 12, loyal, kind, no ties, knows exactly what she wants, seeks attractive, male for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338435**

PASSIONATE nature loving lady, petite with long blonde hair looking for nice guy to spend quality time with and see how it goes. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338433**

DEBBIE 35, fun friendly brunette, lovely figure looking for similar attractive male for adult fun friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338431**

MICHELLE 40, cuddly, bubbly brunette, up for anything, seeking average/well built male who knows how to enjoy life. Maybe with me! **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338429**

FEMALE 44, kind, generous, GSOH, genuine, caring, loving, likes animals, cinema, reading, walks, seeks similar male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338379**

WIDOWER 50's, likes country walks, animals, reading, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337979**

LARGER lady seeks gent, 60's for nights out, friendship and who knows. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338517**

LARGER lady, 61, WLTM caring, affectionate male for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338183**

SARAH attractive, slim, 5ft 5ins, brunette, likes pubs, walks, travel, seeks male, 30-38 who is caring, exciting, confident and attractive. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337581**

YVETTE 46, attractive, blonde, blue eyes, likes keep fit, seeks younger male with GSOH for serious fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337925**

CAROLE petite, slim, long blonde hair, green eyes, attractive, likes sports, nights out, pubs, meals out, cinema, theatre, music, seeks genuine, honest male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337515**

MISCHA 60, blonde hair, blue eyes, well built, likes countryside, shows, fairs, walks, boot sales, home life, cooking, seeks likeminded male, 60-70 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337859**

33YR old lady, seeks 30-35yr old male, romantic, sincere and honest. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380382**

ATTRACTIVE female, blonde, mid 30's, seeks likeminded male for rambling, horse riding and other similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380372**

SHIRLEY 74, 5ft 6ins, attractive, N/S, varied interests, seeks similar aged N/S male to share interests and time. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337889**

BEAUTIFUL exotic, very petite female, 44, loves to cook romantic meals in, seeks loving male to share relaxing nights with good wine, great company and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337855**

MICHELLE 43, long curly brown hair, sparkly green eyes, lovely figure, easygoing and affectionate, WLTM nice man for loving relationship. Age unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337853**

KATHY 40ish, passionate, outgoing, adventurous red haired lady looking for adventure seeks tall good looking guy for a relaxed no strings relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337851**

MICHELLE 40, petite curvy brunette, cheeky and full of fun, seeks funny easygoing male to keep her company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337849**

MARIA 23, chatty blonde, fun to be around, likes to try new things seeks spontaneous male for no strings fun and laughter. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337825**

KATIE 24, pretty, small/slim, long blonde hair, outgoing and fun, seeks caring, sincere guy for fun friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337823**

BUBBLY brunette, 40, lovely smile, likes to look good, loves rock bands and motorbikes seeks confident man for new experiences. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337821**

ATTRACTIVE young 42yr old female, size 12, voluptuous, seeks tall, athletic male, 35-55 for fun, excitement and happiness. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337817**

THERE'S more to life than work! Sandra, 46, bubbly professional looking to let her hair down with broadminded male. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337815**

LISA 41, 5ft, black hair, brown eyes, curvy, divorced mum, attractive, GSOH, seeks genuine, grubby builder with rough hands and big heart to cherish. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337609**

PAT 64, petite, brown hair, blue eyes, young at heart, N/S, bubbly, likes music, travel, cooking, seeks likeminded gent of similar age for friendship, possible romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337435**

WOULDN'T it be nice? Cheerful female, late 60's, dog owner, likes gardening, walks, conversation, laughter, seeks similar. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337601**

ANNE 46, slim, N/S, honest, kind, reliable, seeks slim-medium build male, 42-50 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337247**

SINGLE fun loving female, 47, kind, caring, bubbly, GSOH, likes meals out, pubs, cinema, cooking, walks, seeks male, 39-49 for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336879**

43YR old female, petite, 5ft 1ins, single mum, OHAC, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337351**

PAM 33, pretty, kind, loving brunette seeks funny, laidback male for relaxing fun times with no ties. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337273**

MANDY 40, petite, curvy brunette, big green eyes, seeks someone nice to share lots of cuddles, TLC and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337271**

JASMINE 38, fun loving, easygoing and flirty seeks genuine male to make her laugh, brighten up her day and take out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337269**

RESCUE me! Lonely, hard working professional would love to be wined and dined by a romantic fun loving male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337267**

ALISON 30, pretty, slim with long brown hair, fit and active seeks fit older male for energetic relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336719**

LOVELY sensual, shapely female, confidant and adventurous, seeks experienced male for fun adventures. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336717**

MICHELLE 41, stunning, seductive, dark haired nurse seeking sensitive male who likes a gal in a uniform for lots of off duty fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336715**

RUTH young 64, attractive, kind, considerate, N/S, likes outdoors, socialising, many interests, seeks male for happy leisure time, friendship, LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380086**

MARIE 60, dark hair/eyes, kind, honest, GSOH, varied interests, N/S, seeks gent, 55-62 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336807**

DEBORAH 41, intelligent brunette, lovely brown eyes, discreet, many interests, seeks similar male to share fun and good conversation. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336721**

41YR old female, medium build, likes gym, walks, cinema, meals out, seeks kind hearted gent for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336161**

RETIRED female, new to area, likes art, music, concerts, theatre, seeks similar professional/retired male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379922**

JAN 5ft 2ins, blonde hair, brown eyes, slim, 50's, nurse, likes pubs, nights in, wine, cooking, animals, seeks likeminded male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335065**

MANDY 18, very pretty inexperienced young female, seeks seductive older male to tutor and spoil her. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335569**

FEMALE early 50's, seeks likeminded male, 50-55 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380262**

LARGER lady 61, likes tv, cinema, boot sales, fairs, reading, WLTM male for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336833**

JACKIE 63, 5ft 5ins, slightly overweight, N/S, likes most things, seeks nice male to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380254**

JOY likes nights in/out, cats, holidays, seeks caring, loving male, 40-60 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380170**

RACHEL 34, pretty brunette, lovely personality, seeks genuine, down to earth male who thinks he can satisfy all her dreams. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337369**

OUTGOING male needed to end bored and lonely evenings by lovely, curvy brunette, 41, wanting to try love again. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337367**

MARIAN 48, charming brunette, slim and hopelessly romantic seeks easy going, laid back male to cherish and share an uncomplicated, relaxed relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337365**

ALISON 39, petite with long brown hair, hazel eyes, very loving, seeking similar male for an uncomplicated relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337361**

ATTRACTIVE slim blonde, early 60's, GSOH, likes most things, fed up of kissing frogs, seeks genuine, caring male of similar age to share the good things. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336515**

GEORGIE 45, curvy, tactile blonde, bubbly and chatty looking for broadminded, fun loving, mature male. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335563**

ALI 25, petite with long brown hair and blue eyes, happy personality, knows what she wants, looking for dishy older guy to sweep her off her feet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335561**

ATTRACTIVE feminine dark haired lady, 60, likes travel, cinema, dancing, conversation, GSOH, seeks N/S male to share similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335519**

ANNIE 55, very feminine, curvy with short fair hair and green eyes, loves life seeking well built male who would like to chill out and cuddle up on the sofa. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335533**

TRACY 31, 5ft 1ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, curvy, bubbly, GSOH, 2 children, likes animals, seeks genuine, trustworthy, honest male, 35-50 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379552**

SANDRA 60, bubbly widow WLTM loving male who knows how to treat a lady for good conversation and relaxed fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333631**

GEORGIE 45, cuddly bubbly blonde, seeks laid back guy to chill out, share adult conversation and relaxing no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333629**

KAY 37, beautiful, warm, friendly blonde, no ties, would love to get together with an attractive male who can sweep her off her feet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334797**

LOVELY female, 55, 5ft 6ins, seeks male 53-59, 6ft and N/S. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334633**

FEMALE likes holidays, ballet, reading, animals, seeks N/S male, under 70. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335437**

AMY 20, very pretty, smart brunette seeks well built older blond male who knows just what he wants for fun times and much more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336071**

MEN seeking women

Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT883 To : 65125 (T&C's below)

KEVIN late 30's, 5ft 6ins, likes country walks, rock music, meals out, football, seeks honest female, 25-50 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380508**

LAIDBACK young 60yr old male, 5ft 10ins, slim, brown hair, green eyes, solvent, fit, likes sports, gardening, walks, seeks likeminded female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380500**

STEWART 42, builder, part time fisherman, likes dog walking, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338341**

BUSINESSMAN seeks female for passionate adult fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380418**

NORMAN 59, easygoing, fit, 6ft, likes golf, boating, walks, cinema, seeks slim-medium build female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338053**

PROFESSIONAL honest male, 38, slim, 5ft 11ins, seeks female for friendship/companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338381**

GARY 42, 6ft 1ins, slim, good looking, athletic, own business, likes sports, walks, meals out, seeks slim, athletic lady, 25-45. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338313**

40YR old male, 5ft 9ins, slim, short hair, hazel eyes, seeks slim-medium female, 30-43 for friendship, maybe more. Single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338087**

BRIAN young looking, easygoing, 49, divorced dad, likes music, meals out, travel, seeks easygoing female, 40-58 for fun and friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337973**

INVITATION to dine, trip to coast, cosy night in, you choose. 6ft, brown hair, 50's male, looking for someone special to spend quality time with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337931**

RAY 70, caring, happy, likes walks, meals out, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338137**

YOUNG 60yr old male, N/S, GSOH, 5ft 10ins, fit, likes walks, gardening, seeks slim blonde female, 45-55 for TLC and possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380362**

TALL male, mid 50's, GSOH, refuses to take himself too seriously, seeks friendship with woman 42 or younger. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337169**

DAVID 51, divorced, lonely, shy, N/S, black hair, likes most things, seeks similar female, 45 plus for friendship/companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337613**

MALE easygoing, 47, 5ft 6ins, N/S, brown hair, green eyes, GSOH, likes walks, music, travel, seeks similar female, 35-50 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380342**

LONELY widow, misses hugs and genuine TLC, seeks loyal, understanding female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380340**

SOLVENT fit Director, 50's, seeks quality, slim, pretty, intelligent female with GSOH, 30-40, must like sailing and music. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337879**

COLIN youthful attractive 45, dark hair/eyes, slim-medium build, seeks fun, attractive female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337673**

MALE seeks black/foreign female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337875**

5FT 8ins male, medium build, mid 40's, with kids, seeks career woman, 35-45 for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337553**

LOVING mature male, GSOH, 5ft 10ins, medium build, no ties, OHAC, likes travel, home cooking, seeks special, honest, trustworthy, N/S lady to spoil, size 10-12. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380394**

Gent 74, lonely, faithful, likes homelife, solvent, own flat, seeks N/S female, 55-70 for friendship/LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333761**

YOUNG looking 48yr old male, dark hair, brown eyes, seeks tall, slim female, 25-45 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380294**

ALI 42, honest, own business, bubbly, outgoing, likes nights in/out, theatre, travel, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337095**

PETER 30, 5ft 8ins, brown hair/eyes, medium build, likes cinema, meals out, nights in, seeks similar female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380216**

MALE 44, nice looking, brown hair, blue eyes, slim, WLTM nice, attractive female, slim, 34-40 who is very true and honest for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336983**

TONY 65, active, honest, N/S, likes walks, holidays, socialising, meals out, seeks female of similar age for company, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336975**

MICK 60, N/S, no ties, GSOH, romantic, understanding, likes walks, history, travel, films, seeks romantic, understanding lady, 45-60 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336527**

JOHN young looking 59, self employed, N/S, seeks female, 35-50 for friendship, love, romance and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336615**

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BACHELOR gothic artist, seeks Princess with originality for romance and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334291**

SIMON 35, fair hair, 5ft 6ins, good looks, seeks mature female, 45-65 to spice up life with no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380136**

ROMANTIC country man, young 50's, tactile, artistic, GSOH, likes meals out, films, classic cars, antiques, seeks attractive lady companion. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379906**

ADE 40, attractive, blond hair, blue eyes, likes nights out, meals out, animals, socialising, sport, kind, caring, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336853**

TALL attractive male, seeks older female for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336841**

SLIM fit, tall, attractive widower, 48, kind, romantic, amusing, seeks companion to enjoy travel and romantic nights in. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336831**

HANDSOME black male, tall, slim, athletic, seeks female, any age for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380278**

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5FT 10ins male, 58, widow, likes cooking, travel, dogs, seeks female, 50-70. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379850**

TALL slim, dark haired, attractive male, young 54, seeks attractive, slim female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334557**

JASON fun loving, late 20's, likes outdoors, meals out, pubs, clubs, dad of one, seeks female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379878**

JOHN 63, easygoing, seeks similar aged female for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 336643**

EASYGOING male, 54, 5ft 11ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, N/S, GSOH, reliable, seeks likeminded female for relationship and TLC. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334167**

MALE 45, medium build, tall, blue eyes, brown hair, GSOH, romantic, honest, likes pubs, music, nights in, seeks slim-medium build female, 28-45. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379780**

PETE 40, likes swimming, walks, pubs, clubs, nights in/out, seeks female, 35-40 with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380036**

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ALAN 36, gay, fun loving, sociable, likes meals out, cooking, seeks similar gay male for 1-2-1 relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380252**

GAY male, 39, straight acting, brown eyes, fit, good looking, seeks similar male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335903**

GAY male, 59, seeks similar male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379266**

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'Can-do' attitude secures top prize

AN APPRENTICE has won a prestigious award recognising his work in the security industry.

Callum Reeder, from Maidstone, scooped the national British Security Industry Association (BSIA) Apprentice Installer award, sponsored by Dedicated Micros.

The 22-year-old, who began his apprenticeship at ADT Fire and Security in 2007, was presented with his award by Sir Paul Stephenson, commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service.

Richard Hyland, of ADT Fire and Security, said: "Callum is consistently positive, organised and approachable. He takes an active part in team talks and has gained the reputation of having a real 'can-do' attitude due to approaching all new challenges with vigour."

Award pinnacle of roofer's career

A CONSTRUCTION apprentice has been commended at a national awards ceremony for his work.

Dale Wright, from Ashford, was praised for being one of the best apprentices in his trade at the National Construction College (NCC) South annual apprentice awards in Erith.

He achieved the Top First Year Roof Slating and Tiling Apprenticeship prize, which was sponsored by the National Federation of Roofing Contractors Ltd.

Dale, who works for Karl Terry Roofing, near Tenterden, was one of 12 to be commended.

Judy Lowe, deputy chair of company ConstructionSkills, which works closely with NCC, said: "It is essential we ensure excellent training is available to these bright recruits who want to be part of our industry."

New organisation to train those who need most support

By **MARIJKE COX**

PEOPLE with learning disabilities are being given the chance to improve their lives through a new initiative providing training and education.

Community Futures Kent is a new organisation, set up by charity the Avenues Group in Sidcup, which offers opportunities to help people with disabilities plan for the future.

Focusing on the Sevenoaks and Swanley areas, the organisation is already involved in a number of schemes, including music workshops and producing easy-read information.

A new bowling team has also been set up, supported by local volunteers.

People using the service will be able to get advice on finding a job, furthering their education or becoming involved in leisure activities.

Vivienne Smith, chair of Community Futures Kent and who has a learning disability, has been working closely with the Avenues Group to set up the organisation.

"It is all about people with learning disabilities getting a good life and future that is looked forward to," she said.

"It is an organisation that will help people to grow in independence and live the way they want with the right support."

Development manager of the group Simon Goldsmith said the scheme represents an important step towards equality for people who have a learning disability.

He added: "We will work with our partners to make sure they are both represented and active within the life of our local communities."

People with learning disabilities are being encouraged to get involved to improve their skills and ensure they have a good future.

Steve James, group chief executive for the Avenues Group, said: "We are delighted to be able to support Community Futures Kent. It will make a real difference to the lives of people with learning disabilities."

The Avenues Group offers people whatever level of support they need, whether 24 hours a day or two days a week. The new organisation was launched last week at a special event in Hextable, in Swanley, with a performance from Kent Music's Sevenoaks Music Centre.

Anyone interested in finding out more about Community Futures Kent or the Avenues Group can telephone Sarah Burfutt on 0208 308 2964 or email her at sarah.burfutt@avenuesgroup.org.uk.

For more information about Avenues go to www.avenuesgroup.org.uk.

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'Clever' students are among UK's finest young designers

GRADUATE designers from the University of the Creative Arts Rochester have scooped an award at the New Designers 2010.

The annual event is a showcase of the best designs from graduates across the country, from fashion and textiles to product design and visual communication.

University of the Creative Arts Rochester won the Best Stand Award for its computer-generated arts and animation display.

Senior lecturer Phil Gomm said they were delighted to win.

"Our stand was an attempt to move the pre-production drawings, concept art and storyboards to the foreground to show that our students are all immensely talented artists," he said.

"We also wanted to change conceptions about the role of the computer, which many people believe is responsible for the amazing images on the screen. In truth, the computer is 'stupid' and is actually only as 'clever' as the individual piloting it."

SPOT ON: The award-winning design team

New Designers, which celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, looks to show the originality and excellence of UK graduates.

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Contact Centre Sales Consultants (Ashford only): With a minimum of two years ABTA travel experience, you will be able to prove an impressive record of sales achievement. You need to have the confidence and commitment necessary to be your own boss and run your own business based from our offices in Bank Street, Ashford. This means having what it takes to find, and then keep, your own customers as well as converting calls directed to you via our telephone switch. In return, you will reap the rewards of unlimited earning potential, flexible hours, the satisfaction of running your own business, dedicated head office support and free training.
Salary Package – Basic salary + extensive commission+ benefits

All applicants will be working as part of a team environment making reservations via our in-house system. Applicants wishing to apply for these exciting Travel Sales roles will ideally have experience within a travel sales role either in retail or tour operators with experience of working in a target driven environment. Retail or leisure travel consultants with experience of booking holidays using a booking system and the web combined with excellent customer service experience will also be considered. Send your CV with current salary details to **info.ashford@trailblazertravel.co.uk** by July31st 2010 at the latest.

THE FIFTH TRUST

Support Worker

The Fifth Trust are looking for an experienced Individual to work within our Day Services for Adults with Learning Difficulties. This is in a support/care role which will involve Personal Care.
You must have a proven experience of working within the care setting and be able to Drive our Minibus, if not be prepared to take the necessary test.
Car driver essential and a flexible approach as you will be required to work over 2 sites.

THE FIFTH TRUST

Catering assistant

We are looking for an Individual who has a proven catering experience to work in our Teashop situated in the Elham Valley. We are looking for an enthusiastic individual to work at the weekends, Saturday & Sunday to organise and supervise functions/lunches over the weekend period & to provide guidance and support to the Teashop assistants.

For both Jobs please send your CV and a covering letter to: **The Fifth Trust**
C/O Mrs Nikki Marley
Elham Valley Vineyard, Elham Valley Road
Barham, Canterbury, Kent. CT4 6LN

To advertise in this section **01303 817040**

Be a Legal Secretary

With excellent IT skills, the ability to audio type 65wpm and good legal knowledge, you will be confident, organised and independent, earning up to £22k. **We can help you there!**

Work in Finance & Accounts

Good working knowledge of Sage Line 50 Accounts, excellent understanding of Excel with the ability to complete various finance procedures, you will be confident and organised earning up to 20k. **We can help you there!**

Be an Executive PA

With excellent IT skills, 70 wpm typing and minute taking in shorthand, you will be confident, organised and independent, earning up to £25k. **We can help you there!**

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Are you...

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Do you enjoy a challenge and **have a 'can do' attitude?**

Would you like to train for a Media Sales career? Then we may have the answer for you!

You will start on a commission only basis where you will be well rewarded for your achievements, and supported by ongoing training and coaching. Successful candidates will be offered a permanent media sales position.

If you would like to train as a Media Sales Executive, please send your CV to christine.davidson@kosmedia.co.uk with a note stating why you are right for this position.

KOS media
Award Winning Company

Administrative Assistant

£16,830 – £19,126 pro rata • 30 hours per week (4 days)
Based Faversham

KCA (UK) Psychological Therapy Providers (PTP) provides a wide range of high quality, innovative primary care mental health services.

You will provide an excellent administrative and secretarial service to the PTP team, so you will need proficiency in copy typing, minute-taking and data in-putting, as well as experience of working independently. A sound understanding and experience of using a range of computer applications, including Microsoft Access and Excel, are required. An understanding of statistics and basic data analysis is desirable, although a willingness to learn would be acceptable.

You will need to be able to respond to people in a professional manner and have good communication skills.

Should you wish to discuss this role informally, please contact Smita Derodra or Karl Grice on 01795 590212.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590795 and select option three. Please quote reference number 688.

Closing date: Friday 6 August 2010.
Interview date: Thursday 19 August 2010.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all. Charity No: 292824

www.kca.org.uk

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POWERED BY **KOS MEDIA**

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE REQUIRED

We are looking for an exceptional sales person for a field sales position covering the Maidstone area Only hard working, tenacious and motivated professionals need apply

Ideally from a sales background you will understand the importance of balancing good customer service with achieving targets. Media experience is not essential as training will be given.

KOS Media is one of the fastest growing multi media companies serving the Kent county. We publish 14 weekly newspapers including the flagship Kent on Sunday together with seasonal /annual magazines and 20 online news sites.

We offer a good basic salary, performance and target related bonus and 5 weeks holiday.

KOS media
Award Winning Company

So if you think you have what it takes to join our sales teams send your CV to **ynez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk** quoting fieldsales or telesales position.

Public Sector

You can also find the latest jobs online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk

KOSMEDIA | Telephone: 01303 817040 | Fax: 01303 817004 | Email: appointments@kosmedia.co.uk | Online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk

The Sittingbourne Community College

Daring to be different!

The specialist College for Arts, Sport and Engineering.

One of the most improved schools in Kent. Roll increased from 940 to 1,400 in 5 years (including 200 in Post 16 Centre)

The National Challenge

Join an English Department which will soon be identified as one of the most successful in the county. Results from 25% to 60% in 4 years. 50% of the department have received senior promotion in the last year.

REQUIRED FOR IMMEDIATE START
TEACHER OF ENGLISH

This post is an amazing professional development opportunity for an experienced or newly qualified English Teacher. The postholder will teacher KS3 in the first instance. Laptop provided and enhanced salary for the right candidate.

Committed to Child Protection and Safety.
Post subject to Enhanced CRB Disclosure.
For further details please contact Mrs Debbie Myers, Personnel Officer, on 01795 472449 or email debbie.myers@sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk
To apply, please send your letter of application and CV to Alan Barham, Headteacher, or email alan.barham@sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk

CLOSING DATE: 6-8-10

The Sittingbourne Community College
Swanstree Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 4NL
Tel: 01795-472449 Fax: 01795-470332
Email: office@sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk
Web: www.sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk

Bredlands Lane, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent CT2 0HD
T: 01227 710392 | W: www.spiresacademy.com
NOR: 412 | Academy Leader: Helen Foster
Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts

Spires ACADEMY

Academy Receptionist

£13,097 - £14,311 • 8.30am - 4.30pm (Mon - Thurs) & 8.30am - 4.00pm (Fri) all year round

Joining our administration team, you will be keen, motivated and must feel comfortable working with young people. The ability to work well under pressure is essential as are excellent organisational, interpersonal and communication skills.

For further details and an application form, please visit www.spiresacademy.com
Alternatively, contact us on 01227 710392 or email: office@spiresacademy.com

Closing date: Monday 26th July 2010 at noon.
Interview date: Friday 30th July 2010.

Spires Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

Teachers Needed

Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

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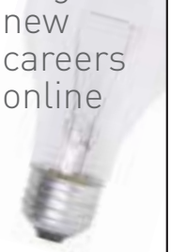

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FOLKESTONE PRIMARY ACADEMY

Teaching Assistant
Specialist in ASD

We are looking to recruit a specialist TA for September 2010, initially in Foundation Stage. For further details please contact the school on 01303 255012.

The successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced Disclosure via the Criminal Records Bureau

To advertise in this section 01303 817040

PART-TIME KITCHEN ASSISTANT

STONE BAY SCHOOL

Required from late September 2010. Duties will include distribution of food for the evening meals to residential staff, washing up returned dishes and general kitchen cleaning. The hours are 3.30pm to 7.00pm every Monday to Thursday and 3.30pm to 7.00pm on alternate Fridays. This is an average of 15.75 hours per week and is term time only.

The salary is at Kent Scheme Band 2 points 4 to 7 which is £4529 to £4949 per year (£6.69 to £7.31 per hour).

Stone Bay School is committed to the safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of children and employees are required to have an enhanced CRB disclosure.

If you are interested in applying for this post please phone (01843 863421), e-mail (finance@stone-bay.kent.sch.uk) or write to Mrs Ann Hickmott, Stone Bay School, 70 Stone Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1EB for an application form. The closing date for applications is Wednesday 1st September 2010, and interviews will be held the following week.

THANET COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

Thanet College is going through exciting times in its drive towards being outstanding. The vacancies below give you the opportunity to be a part of the new management team:

- **Head of Division for Technology**
  Salary scale: £41,974 - £48,128 for 37 hours per week all year
- **Head of Division for Life and Work**
  Salary scale: £41,974 - £48,128 for 37 hours per week all year
- **Head of Division for Student Support**
  Salary scale: £41,974 - £48,128 for 37 hours per week all year
- **Programme Area Manager - Foundation Vocational (Entry)**
  Salary scale: £33,917 - £38,358 for 37 hours per week all year
- **Programme Area Manager - Construction**
  Salary scale: £33,917 - £38,358 for 37 hours per week all year
- **Cross Curriculum Manager - 14 to 19**
  Salary scale: £33,917 - £38,358 for 37 hours per week all year
- **Cross Curriculum Manager - Employability & Community**
  Salary scale: £33,917 - £38,358 for 37 hours per week all year
- **Cross Curriculum Manager - Higher Education**
  Salary scale: £33,917 - £38,358 for 37 hours per week all year
- **Cross Curriculum Manager - Additional Learning Support**
  Salary scale: £33,917 - £38,358 for 37 hours per week all year

For further details and to apply online please visit our website **www.thanet.ac.uk** and click on '**Vacancies**'. Alternatively contact the **HR office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN** or telephone our application line for an application pack on **(01843) 605052**

Closing date: Friday 6 August 2010
Interview Dates: Thursday 12 August/Friday 13 August 2010

Promoting Equality Preventing Discrimination

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE Bronze | matrix | EMPLOYMENT SOLUTIONS

Jobs for Kent continues on page 75...

Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following areas:

Lecturer in Public Services

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 per annum (dependent on qualifications and experience) Medway

We are looking for an excellent individual to participate in the delivery of Public Services programmes throughout the College. The successful candidate will teach on a range of BTEC programmes of level one to three and have a background in Public Services. This post will also involve working with students in a variety of offsite activities related to the uniformed public services.

Lecturer in Child Care and Health Care

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 per annum (dependent on qualifications and experience) Medway

We are looking for a knowledgeable and experienced candidate to deliver CACHE Child Care and Health and Social Care programmes at various levels. The successful candidate will have the ability to motivate students and be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

CLOSING DATE: Friday 30 July 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from **www.midkent.ac.uk**. Alternatively, please e-mail **job.applications@midkent.ac.uk**. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

Action for Business College · Investors in Diversity · RBLI · Investor in People · MidKent College

THE SPENCER WING

The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. We also have a 5 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford.

The continuing growth of our business has resulted in the following vacancy:

Administrator

Ashford Flexi Bank

Maths and English GCSE (or equivalent) essential

Closing date for applications – Friday 30 July 2010

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact

Caroline Thomas - 07833 237879

For job description and application form please contact:

Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd
The Spencer Wing, QEQM Hospital
Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer

This position is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

ISO 9001 · INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

The Westlands School

Site MaintenanceTechnician/Caretaker

Required for September 2010
To work at The Westlands Primary School, Homewood Avenue
37 hours a week from 6:00am - 2:00pm Mondays-Friday
Kent Pay Band 3 - £14,099-£15,984

Extra payments will be made to cover any out-of-hours lettings during evenings and weekends and for weekend/Bank Holiday standby duty, all of which are carried out on a mandatory, shared rota basis. Applicants must be prepared to work a variety of hours should the need arise.

The successful applicant will work as a member of the Site Maintenance team, line-managed by the Site Manager. As well as general caretaking duties the successful applicant will be expected to undertake site maintenance, and so a good working knowledge and experience with carpentry, electrics, plumbing and decorating is essential. An awareness of swimming pool maintenance would be an advantage.

You are welcome to contact the school for a preliminary discussion if desired. Recruitment packs are available from the school or online.
Closing date, Monday 9th August 2010

The Westlands School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Westlands Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1PF
www.westlands.kent.sch.uk Tel: 01795 477475 Fax: 01795 479461
Email: office@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Executive Headteacher: J Whitcombe MA

JobsforKent.co.uk

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Accountancy

Administrator and PA to Doctor

Canterbury
Salary TBC
Full-time/ Part-time/Jobshare
Are you looking for a change in direction or looking to take a new route with your skills? An opportunity has arisen within a rapidly expanding, exceptional health centre.The position is extremely sought after and is available immediately. Administrator and PA to Doctor of a rapidly expanding health care practice. We require minimum qualifications of 5 GCSE's Grade C and above (must include English and Mathematics) Basic computer skills are preferable: Proficient user of Sage 50 and Microsoft Office, particularly Word, Excel and Publisher • Hard working and motivated • Enthusiastic and committed • Organised and efficient Work well solo • Works well within a team • Thrives on self improvement and success.
To apply/more information:
Wellness Practice
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: ISC1

Accounts Controller

LongField
Salary TBA
To apply/more information:
MotorSport Vision Ltd
joanne.brown@motorsportvision.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

ASSISTANT BOOK-KEEPER

Canterbury
Salary TBA
Burgess Hodgson is a leading firm of Chartered Accountants and business advisors in the South East. The practice has developed a strong reputation for training and developing individuals across a range of disciplines. ASSISTANT BOOK-KEEPER We are looking for an assistant book-keeper based in our Canterbury head office. Applicants should have a minimum of AAT Intermediate level and experience of working with Sage 50 accounts software. Please apply in writing with CV to: Barry Ryan, Burgess Hodgson, Camburgh House, 27 New Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3DN.
To apply/more information:
Burgess Hodgson Chartered Accountants
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

TRAINEE CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Canterbury
Salary TBA
Burgess Hodgson is a leading firm of Chartered Accountants and business advisors in the South East. The practice has developed a strong reputation for training and developing individuals across a range of disciplines. TRAINEE CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS We are now recruiting for a number of trainee Chartered Accountants. Minimum requirements are a good degree, preferably in mathematics-based or business-related subjects, and/or three A Levels (grades A-B). This is an excellent opportunity to develop your skills in a challenging, rewarding, and often inspiring environment. Please apply in writing with CV to: Barry Ryan, Burgess Hodgson, Camburgh House, 27 New Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3DN.
To apply/more information:
Burgess Hodgson Chartered Accountants
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Finance Office Assistant

Faversham
Salary £15,039 - £16,830 pro rata
Finance OfficeAssistant
£15,039 - £16,830 pro rata per annum
30 hours per week • Based Faversham. As part of our busy finance team, you will undertake the daily administration duties and assist in the operation and maintenance of the purchase ledger, sales ledger and payroll. You will also provide back-up support for team members as required.Training will be provided. You will need to have good keyboard skills, be numerate and fully computer literate. Previous experience of working in a finance office and knowledge of Microsoft Office and Dynamics Great Plains is desirable but not essential. You will need to be able to respond to people in a professional manner and have good communication skills. For an informal discussion regarding the role, please contact Ann Colyer, Finance Office Manager, on 01795 590795. Ref: 684.
Closing date: 23 July 2010.
Interview date: 11 August 2010.
Application forms and job descriptions for all roles can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk You can also email recruitment@kca.org.uk or call 01795 590795 selecting option three. Please quote the relevant reference number. KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.Charity No: 292824 www.kca.org.uk
To apply/more information:
KCA (UK)
admin@kca.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 684

Finance and HR Officer

Chatham
Salary TBA
To apply/more information:
Bishop of Rochester Academy
Stuns001@medway.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Administration, Secretarial, PA

Administrator and PA to Doctor

Canterbury
Salary TBC
Full-time/ Part-time/Jobshare
Are you looking for a change in direction or looking to take a new route with your skills? An opportunity has arisen within a rapidly expanding, exceptional health centre.The position is extremely sought after and is available immediately. Administrator and PA to Doctor of a rapidly expanding health care practice. We require minimum qualifications of 5 GCSE's Grade C and above (must include English and Mathematics) Basic computer skills are preferable: Proficient user of Sage 50 and Microsoft Office, particularly Word, Excel and Publisher • Hard working and motivated • Enthusiastic and committed • Organised and efficient Work well solo • Works well within a team • Thrives on self improvement and success.
To apply/more information:
Wellness Practice
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: ISC1

Receptionist / Customer Service

Canterbury
Salary negotiable
To apply/more information:
Wellness Practice
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: cust 001

Fundraising Officer

Maidstone
Salary £25,206 - £28,451 pro rata
Fundraising Officer Maidstone £25,206 - £28,451 pro rata Fixed term, 2 year contract, Part time 22 hours Ref: 742/E mcch is a charitable organisation committed to designing and delivering services, to adults with learning / physical disabilities, autism or mental health needs. We are looking for an experienced Fundraiser to help the mcch group raise funds for projects that will enable the people we support to live more independent and fulfilled lives. Raising funds from a range of sources, including Charitable Trusts, Foundations and Corporates, you will work innovatively to reach your targets. You will have a proven track record of working in this field and an ability to work independently to develop this function within mcch. The successful candidate will have experience of fundraising and the ability to create applications for funding from various trusts. Excellent communication skills, coupled with the ability to build effective relationships with corporate partners and trusts. Experience of social care environment and/or charity background would be a strong advantage. We also have large type/Braille versions available on request. All appointments are subject to a Criminal Records Disclosure. For an application form and job description visit www.mcch.co.uk, email jobs@mcch.co.uk or call 0845 600 1552. Please quote ref.
To apply/more information:
MCCH
j.pearce@mcch.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: Ref: 742/E

ADMIN ASSISTANT

Canterbury
Salary TBA
BAQUS DENLEY KING
Require ADMIN ASSISTANT
For general office duties including answering telephone, filing and assisting Director. Must be computer literate working with MS Word and Excel. Send CV to : Mr D Dunne, Baqus Denley King, The Old Brewery Business Centre 75 Stour Street, Canterbury, Kent. CT1 2NR Or email: david.dunne@baqus.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Baqus Denley King
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Office Administrator

Tunbridge Wells
Salary £15,000 to £22,000 PA
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.oldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Community Ministry Coordinator

Folkestone
Salary £20,000 - £23,000 per annum
St. Saviour's Community Centre Canterbury Road, Folkestone CT19 5NR The Centre is seeking a Community Ministry Coordinator to lead a newly-established initiative, aimed at increasing employment and making life better for residents in East Folkestone, through work with job seekers in partnership with Job Centre Plus and Channel Chamber, a community cafe and a range of activities. This is a full-time post, based in St. Saviour's Church. Salary £20,000 - £23,000 per annum. Full details and application pack are available from: David Grimwood, Suite 6 60 Churchill Square, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4YU, or by phone 07960 369681 or by email to d.grimwood@zedakah.co.uk. This post is subject to enhanced disclosure through the Criminal Records Bureau. Application deadline is 5.00 p.m. on 23rd July. Interview date: 2nd August.
To apply/more information:
St Saviours Community Centre
d.grimwood@zedakah.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Dental Nurse

Chatham
Salary TBA
Full time experienced Dental Nurse required for busy practice

...Jobs for Kent continued from page 30

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in Chatham. Please call 01634 827669.
To apply/more information:
Dr A Lupin and Associates Ltd
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Residential Conveyancing Secretary

Gravesend
Salary TBA
Martin Tolhurst Solicitors in Gravesend are looking to recruit a full time Residential Conveyancing secretary. Training will be given. Please apply enclosing CV and covering letter to Cathanne Craigie Martin Tolhurst Partnership LLP, 7 Wrotham Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 0PD email - ccraigie@martintolhurst.co.uk Telephone - 01474 546018 Closing date 9 July 2010.
To apply/more information:
Martin Tolhurst Partnership Solicitors
ccraigie@martintolhurst.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Formulation Management Administrator

Kent
Salary TBA
To apply/more information:
CPL Aromas Ltd
phil.bowling@cplaromas.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

RECEPTIONIST

Hythe
Salary TBA
RECEPTIONIST REQUIRED Initially for 6 months only but with a view to possible permanent position after initial period. 20 Hrs per week 3 mornings and 2 evenings - must be flexible Apply in writing with CV to Mrs Jill Blackman, Practice Manager, Sun Lane Surgery, 5 Sun Lane, Hythe, Kent. CT21 5JX or jill.blackman2@nhs.net Closing date Friday 30th July.
To apply/more information:
Sun Lane Surgery
jill.blackman2@nhs.net
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Project Officer

Sheerness
Salary £27,695 to £34,194
To apply/more information:
Swale Borough Council
tracysimler@swale.gov.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 208ED4

Early Intervention in Psychosis Team Employment Advisor

Kent
Salary £22,367-£23,921
To apply/more information:
MCCH
j.pearce@mcch.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 738/E

Academy Receptionist

Canterbury
Salary £13,097 - £14,311
Academy Receptionist £13,097 - £14,311 • 8.30am - 4.30pm (Mon - Thurs) & 8.30am - 4.00pm (Fri) all year round Joining our administration team, you will be keen, motivated and must feel comfortable working with young people. The ability to work well under pressure is essential as are excellent organisational, interpersonal and communication skills. For further details and an application form, please visit www.spiresacademy.com Alternatively, contact us on 01227 710392 or email: office@spiresacademy.com Closing date: Monday 26th July 2010 at noon. Interview date: Friday 30th July 2010. Spires Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.
To apply/more information:
Spires Academy
m.wiggington@
spiresacademy.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Office Junior

Ramsgate
Salary Negotiable
Office Junior Required Duties to include general office work. I.T skills are essential. Would suit someone who is enthusiastic, friendly and confident, with a willingness to work hard. Must be reliable and punctual. Further training will be given to the right candidate. Please apply in writing to Mr Ron Twyman, Piper Double Glazing Limited, 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 6PP or e-mail ron@piperwindows.co.uk.
To apply/more information:
Piper Windows
piper@piperwindows.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Catering, Hospitality

MID DAY SUPERVISORS

Gravesend
Salary Pro rata £1,815
To apply/more information:
Gravesend Grammar School for Girl enquiries@ggsg.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sales People

Sevenoaks
Salary Negotiable
Black Tie Foods Ltd Sales People required No experience necessary. Full training and vehicle provided. Call 01732 760484.
To apply/more information:
Black Tie Foods Ltd
blacktie@btconnect.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Catering Assistant

Canterbury
Salary Negotiable
The Fifth Trust
Catering assistant We are looking for an Individual who has a proven catering experience to work in our Teashop situated in the Elham Valley. We are looking for an enthusiastic individual to work at the weekends, Saturday & Sunday to organise and supervise functions/lunches over the weekend period & to provide guidance and support to the Teashop assistants. For both Jobs please send your CV and a covering letter to: The Fifth Trust C/O Mrs Nikki Marley Elham Valley Vineyard Elham Valley Road Barham Canterbury, Kent. CT4 6LN.
To apply/more information:
Family Investment Homes Ltd
applications@kosmedia.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Bar Waiting staff

Sittingbourne
Salary Negotiable
Part time bar waiting staff required for village pub near Sittingbourne Own transport, 18 + Varied shifts Please phone 01795 842546.
To apply/more information:
Harrow (The)
lindapriest611@btconnect.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

DINING ROOM ASSISTANT

Tunbridge Wells
Salary TBA
ROSE HILL SCHOOL, Tunbridge Wells PART TIME DINING ROOM ASSISTANT REQUIRED (starting Monday, 6 September) Monday-Friday 11.30am-2.30pm Term time only (additional assistance with Saturday match teas will be required on a rota basis – overtime paid) To assist the existing staff with the children's lunches (must have some kitchen experience preferably within a school kitchen environment) Telephone: Mr Jerry Warran-Smith (Head Chef) for Application Form 01892 519349 (if answerphone please leave details of name and address) Closing date: Wednesday, 21 July 'Rose Hill is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children'.
To apply/more information:
Rose Hill School
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Butcher

Dartford
Salary TBA
Richardson & Sons require a Butcher High class trade. General duties. Experience required. Please call 01322 223111.
To apply/more information:
Richardson & Sons
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Vacancies filled fast online with
JobsforKent.co.uk
To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Chef de Partie

Canterbury
Salary Negotiable
Chef de Partie required for busy country pub restaurant with high standards Would suit someone looking to advance their career. Good conditions, holiday pay. Right applicant must have necessary qualifications. Phone Mark on 01227 860338.
To apply/more information:
Prince of Wales
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Child Care

ALL PRIMARY TEACHERS NEEDED

Kent
Salary £115 per day
To apply/more information:
Education Sense
office@education-sense.com
Quoting Job Ref: PRI1

ALL PRIMARY TEACHERS NEEDED

Kent
Salary £115 per day
Are you looking for supply work? We have a shortage of Primary teachers across the whole of Kent! We are turning down work from schools as we have a shortage across both key stages. All applicants must have the relevant teaching qualifications. NQTs welcome! Excellent pay rates! + NEW Loyalty Scheme! Visit our new website at www.education-sense.com or email CVs to kturner@education-sense.com
To apply/more information:
Education Sense
office@education-sense.com
Quoting Job Ref: PRI1

ALL NURSERY NURSES URGENTLY NEEDED

Maidstone
Salary £7 per hour
We are currently looking to employ Nursery Nurses/Assistants! Day-to-Day supply work in and around the Maidstone area. Term time and throughout the holidays! MUST HAVE either 2 years experience in a nursery setting or NVQ Level 2 or equivelant. Very good rates of pay!!! + NEW Loyalty Scheme! NOTE: This is NOT an advert for a permanent post.
To apply/more information:
Education Sense
office@education-sense.com
Quoting Job Ref: NNUR

Care Worker

Ramsgate
Salary TBA
Experienced Residential Care Worker required for Margate/Ramsgate area. Will need to have · NVQ level 2 or 3 in CCYP preferable but not essential · Good communication skills · Good report writing ability · Flexibility · Able to do sleep-ins and week-end work · Driver prefered but not essential. For more information please contact Jay on Tel 0208 4224545. Email: bluesky childrenservices@gmail.com
To apply/more information:
Bluesky Childrens Services Ltd
blueskychildrenservices@gmail.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

ADMIN ASSISTANT

Canterbury
Salary TBA
BAQUS DENLEY KING Require ADMIN ASSISTANT For general office duties including answering telephone, filing and assisting Director. Must be computer literate working with MS Word and Excel. Send CV to : Mr D Dunne, Baqus Denley King, The Old Brewery Business Centre 75 Stour Street, Canterbury, Kent. CT1 2NR Or email: david.dunne@baqus.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Baqus Denley King
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Quantity Surveying Manager

Ramsgate
Salary TBA
Quantity Surveying Manager Required to take over the running of an existing Quantity Surveying office. All candidates must be educated to HND/HNC Building Studies or equivalent and come from an Engineering/Construction background with a proven track record in Quantity Surveying. Applicants must be commercially aware in dealing with sub-contract payments, interim monthly accounts, re-measurement, controlling contracts to budgetary requirements and final accounting. Please apply in writing to Mr N Piper, Piper Double Glazing Limited, 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6PP.
To apply/more information:
Piper Windows
piper@piperwindows.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

EXHIBITION LABOURER/DRIVER

Gravesend
Salary TBA
Exhibition Stand Design, Manufacture, & Management based in Gravesend require EXHIBITION LABOURER/DRIVER (HGV Class 2 and forktruck licences essential) Telephone (01474) 536360 for application form or e-mail CV to: mail@esm-uk.com
To apply/more information:
Exhibitions Stands Manufacturers Ltd
mail@esm-uk.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Customer Service, Call Centre

Office Administrator

Tunbridge Wells
Salary £15,000 to £22,000 PA
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.oldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sales Office Manager

Kent
Salary c£30,000+ benefits
A long established building products manufacturer who have enjoyed expansion and development are looking for a new Sales Office Manager to lead and motivate the internal sales function, taking them from an order team to a sales team. With at least a year's experience in a similar role you will be responsible for developing and managing training programmes to best practice managing transport costs and contributing to IT research and development projects. Excellent communication skills and an understanding of business finance and problem solving competencies are all essential elements of this fast paced role. West Kent based.
To apply/more information:
Interpersonnel
jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 1691

Contact Centre Sales Consultants

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Trailblazer Travel
info.ashford@
trailblazertravel.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Flexible Working

Kent
Salary TBA
Flexible Working Opportunity Would you like to join a dynamic team selling leading edge business software to the hair and beauty salon market and create your own working environment with excellent earning potential? Basic PC and great communication skills are essential. If interested email: nigel.gethins@syntos.co.uk or call 07831 683647 with contact details Why not check out our website at www.syntos.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Syntos
nigel.gethins@syntos.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Domestic

Team Leader – Domestic Services

Tunbridge Wells
Salary TBA
SEVEN SPRINGS Team Leader – Domestic Services Full time – 37.50 hrs Seven Springs is a Residential Care Home, registered with CSCI, which provides personal care and support to adults with a physical disability. We have just been awarded '3 Star – Excellent' status following a CSCI Inspection. We are seeking to recruit an experienced individual to lead our Domestic Services team. If you have at least 2 years' experience of cleaning in a commercial environment, a knowledge and understanding of infection control principles, budgeting and cost control and supervisory experience, we would like to hear from you. For an informal discussion about this post and/or to request an Application Pack, please contact Jason Semple, Service Manager, on 01892 531138.
To apply/more information:
Leonard Cheshire Disability
sue.french@lcdisability.org
Quoting Job Ref: kos

CLEANER

Hythe
Salary TBA
CLEANER REQUIRED 10 hrs per week (2 hours per day) either early mornings or evenings after 6.30pm Apply to Mrs Jill Blackman, Practice Manager, Sun Lane Surgery, 5 Sun Lane, Hythe, Kent CT21 5JX or jill.blackman2@nhs.net Closing date Friday 30th July.
To apply/more information:
Sun Lane Surgery
jill.blackman2@nhs.net
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Weekend Domestic

Faversham
Salary Negotiable
Faversham Residential Home require a Weekend Domestic 9-2pm For further details please call 01795 532629.
To apply/more information:
Carnalea Residential Home
eldercare@carnalea.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Site Maintenance Technician

Sittingbourne
Salary £14,099-£15,984
To apply/more information:
Westlands School (The)
headteacher@
westlands.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Venue Maintenance Team Leader

Dartford
Salary TBA
Venue Maintenance Team Leader, Brands Hatch First class presentation of our venue is very important to us. The role requires a well organised individual capable coordinating a wide variety of tasks including the preparation of the race circuit to the stipulated standards, grounds and buildings maintenance across the site and circuit improvement, repair and construction projects. Leading and working with a team of around 10 people you will need to be an excellent people-manager, communicator and motivator. Experience in the civil engineering or construction industry would be useful and familiarity with CDM and Health & Safety regulations is essential. Applicants should have a good knowledge of plant and machinery, be accustomed to outdoor work and some experience in agricultural or horticultural areas would be advantageous. Critical qualities are strong organisational skills, the ability to cope under pressure and meet tight deadlines. A winning mentality and meticulous attention to detail are essential and as part of the events industry, being prepared to work at weekends and on bank holidays during the season is a must. Applicants should apply in writing, including a CV and salary expectations, to: Katie Dickens, Human Resources, MotorSport Vision Limited, Brands Hatch Circuit, Fawkham, Longfield, Kent, DA3 8NG, or E-mail: katie.dickens@
motorsportvision.co.uk
To apply/more information:
MotorSport Vision Ltd
joanne.brown@
motorsportvision.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Domestic Trades

Lecturer in Electrical Installation

Medway
Salary £28,463 - £32,251 per annum
Lecturer in Electrical Installation Ref: P0357 Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience) Medway We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The successful candidate will contribute to the development, delivery and teaching of Electrical Installation programmes. The ideal candidate must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate must have; an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one. Good IT skills and the ability to work within a team are essential. MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: P0357

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more jobs online
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To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Carpenters - Dartford/Gravesend

Dartford
Salary TBA
Carpenters required for Canterbury & North Kent area Immediate start, long term work & excellent rates for CSCS holders only. Tel Ben Cook 07736 613549.
To apply/more information:
M & S Contractors E A Ltd
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Carpenters

Canterbury
Salary TBA
Carpenters required for Canterbury & North Kent area Immediate start, long term work & excellent rates for CSCS holders only. Tel Ben Cook 07736 613549.
To apply/more information:
M & S Contractors E A Ltd
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Direct Sales Consultant

Chatham
Salary TBA
Direct Sales Consultant confirmed leads provided. Must have own car. Top rates paid. Experience not necessary as full training is provided. Phone Rachel on 01634 813940.
To apply/more information:
Anglian Home Improvements
pcmiddleton@hotmail.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Education, Teacher, School

Cover Supervisor

Aylesford
Salary Kent Scheme 5 - £16,793 to £18,471 which equates to £13,403 to £14,743 pro rata 35 hours per week 39 weeks per year We are seeking a well organised, confidential individual with good communication skills. Responsibilities to include: • Supervise classes when a teacher is absent. • Examination invigilation. • Accompany staff on school trips. • Some administration tasks. Training and career development will be given to the successful candidate. Please note that this School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
To apply/more information:
Aylesford School - Sports College
jill.mckenna@
aylesford.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: KOS

Occupational Therapist

Medway
Salary £27,052 to £34,549 pro rata
Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff efforts, work and achievement are celebrated. We are currently looking for an…. Occupational Therapist to join and enhance our high calibre team Medway Scale B2 – point 32 to 41 (£27,052 to £34,549) (Full time – term time only - pro rata) Abbey Court School is located on 2 sites; Rainham (Nursery and Primary) and Strood (Secondary and Further Education), and caters for pupils aged 3-19 with Severe Learning Difficulties. We are looking for an enthusiastic and experienced Occupational Therapist, with a professional and flexible approach. In essence, somebody with an interest in an educational setting who would like to work in a school committed to enabling pupils to reach their full potential. Working hours are 37 hours p/w, term time only. Candidates should hold a relevant OT qualification. Benefits include: Local Authority pension scheme, induction training, performance management programme and Continuous Professional Development. Visits to the school are welcomed. Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post. This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. Closing Date: 9th July 2010 Interview Date: 19th July 2010 For an application pack, or to make an appointment to visit, please contact Mrs Linda Taylor, Business Manager, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent, ME2 3SP (01634 338236), stating the position for which you are applying. Please note CV's will not be accepted.
To apply/more information:
Abbey Court School
tayll036@medway.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Is your CV up to date?
take advantage of a free online CV review

Academic Coaches in Science and Mathematics

Dartford
Salary £14,170 to £15,738 p.a.
To apply/more information:
Northfleet School for Girls
info@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Apprentices

Medway
Salary £120 per week
MidKent College has existed for over 80 years and we pride ourselves on our responsiveness to employers and ability to meet the needs of our students. Apprentice Opportunity Earn While You Learn! Training Allowance: £120 per week + Recognition Allowance Following the Completion of NVQ We are currently looking to appoint apprentices on a 1 year fixed-term contract in the following areas: • Customer Service • Administration • Plumbing • Painting and Decorating Successful candidates will work towards the apprentice framework including a relevant NVQ Level 2 within their chosen subject. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate and understanding and aptitude of the duties associated with their chosen subject. We are looking for enthusiastic individuals who will benefit from gaining their first NVQ Qualification whilst working in a stimulating environment. All apprentice roles will commence on 1 September 2010. Due to the funding criteria for the Apprentice Programme candidates must be aged under 19 and not have studied towards an NVQ at Level 2 at the point the course commences. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website at www.rbli.co.uk. For further information please visit our website at www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102. In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

SENIOR COVER SUPERVISOR

Gravesend
Salary Pro rata £13,404.60
To apply/more information:
Gravesend Grammar School for Girl
enquiries@ggsg.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

COVER SUPERVISOR / EXAMS ASSISTANT

Gravesend
Salary Pro rata £12,116.76
COVER SUPERVISOR / EXAMS ASSISTANT 32.5 hours per week - Term Time, Development Days plus 1 week during holiday period (i.e. 40 weeks per year plus paid holiday entitlement) Salary at KCS Band 4, initially Point 11 Pro rata £12,116.76 (full time £15,984) Responsible, methodical and accurate person required to work supporting the Exams Officer.Work entails covering classes as detailed below and assisting in the administration of both internal and external exams. During exam periods it will be necessary to work flexibly. Experience of working in a school is desirable and knowledge of the SIMS database would be an advantage.You will be required to work during the exam results period in the summer holidays. All roles are required from September 2010. Application forms and further details are available from the School Office. Completed forms should be returned by post, fax or email for the attention of Mrs E Wilson, Headteacher no later than Wednesday 14th July. Interviews will be held on the 19th or 20th July 2010. Gravesend Grammar School for Girls A Foundation School Pelham Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0JE Telephone: 01474 352896 Fax: 01474 331195 Website:www.ggsg.org.uk email: enquiries@ggsg.org.uk
To apply/more information:
Gravesend Grammar School for Girl
enquiries@ggsg.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

COVER SUPERVISOR

Gravesend
Salary Pro rata £11,847.48
To apply/more information:
Gravesend Grammar School for Girl
enquiries@ggsg.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

MATHS AND LANGUAGE TECHNICIAN

Gravesend
Salary Pro rata £11,897.28
MATHS AND LANGUAGE TECHNICIAN
37 hours per week - Term Time and Development Days Only (i.e. 39 weeks per year plus paid holiday entitlement) Salary at KCS Band 3, initially Point 7 Pro rata £11,897.28 (full time £14,099) An organised and enthusiastic person is required to support our Maths and Language Faculties. The role covers a wide range of duties including preparing class materials, stock control and orders, maintenance of laptops and language lab and general faculty support. This is an exciting and demanding post and the successful candidate must be ICT literate, flexible and able to work on their own initiative and as part of a team.. All roles are required from September 2010. Application forms and further details are available from the School Office. Completed forms should be returned by post, fax or email for the attention of Mrs E Wilson, Headteacher no later than Wednesday 14th July. Interviews will be held on the 19th or 20th July 2010. Gravesend Grammar School for Girls A Foundation School Pelham Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0JE Telephone: 01474 352896 Fax: 01474 331195 Website:www.ggsg.org.uk email: enquiries@ggsg.org.uk
To apply/more information:
Gravesend Grammar School for Girl
enquiries@ggsg.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

MID DAY SUPERVISORS

Gravesend
Salary Pro rata £1,815
MID DAY SUPERVISORS 6.25 hours a week 12.25 – 13.40 daily - Term Time Only (i.e. 38 weeks per year plus paid holiday entitlement) Salary at KCS Band 2, initially Point 4 Pro rata £1,815 (full time £12,903) Required to supervise the dining room and playground during the lunch period ensuring standards of discipline and hygiene are maintained. All roles are required from September 2010. Application forms and further details are available from the School Office. Completed forms should be returned by post, fax or email for the attention of Mrs E Wilson, Headteacher no later than Wednesday 14th July. Interviews will be held on the 19th or 20th July 2010. Gravesend Grammar School for Girls A Foundation School Pelham Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0JE Telephone: 01474 352896 Fax: 01474 331195 Website:www.ggsg.org.uk email: enquiries@ggsg.org.uk
To apply/more information:
Gravesend Grammar School for Girl
enquiries@ggsg.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Lecturer in Electrical Installation

Medway
Salary £28,463 - £32,251 per annum
Lecturer in Electrical Installation Ref: P0357 Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience) Medway We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The successful candidate will contribute to the development, delivery and teaching of Electrical Installation programmes. The ideal candidate must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate must have; an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one. Good IT skills and the ability to work within a team are essential. MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102. In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: P0121

Additional Learning Support Tutor/ Assessor

Medway
Salary £24,792 - £28,311 per annum
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: P0378

Personal Tutor

Maidstone
Salary £20,674 - £23,212 per annum
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: P0499

Technician in Hair and Beauty

Medway
Salary £15,453 - £17,243 per annum
Technician in Hair and Beauty Ref: Ref:P0277
Salary: £15,453 - £17,243 per annum Medway We are looking for an organised candidate to assist the smooth running of the Hair and Beauty department. Responsibilities will include providing technical support to staff and students and setting-up the classrooms as required. Experience in the industry would be advantageous MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: P0277

Information and Guidance Triage

Medway
Salary £15,453 - £17,243 per annum
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: P0131

Hourly Paid Facilitators

Medway
Salary Hourly Rate: £8.96 - £11.26
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: SE560

Front Line Events Co-ordinator

Medway
Salary £16,005 - £19,127 per annum
Front Line Events Co-ordinator Ref: M0450
Maternity Cover – fixed term contract Salary: £16,005 - £19,127 per annum MedwayThe successful candidate will arrange, develop and deliver activities to facilitate student learning through training and experience at events. You will efficiently organise frontline events, including liaison with event organisers and Lecturers, supporting the College in the effective running of the frontline programme. Excellent communication skills and a recognised customer service qualification are essential as well as, experience of driving a minibus and holding a full, clean driving license with Class D entitlement or a current PCV license.MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability orhealth condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further informationregarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit theirwebsite www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff andvolunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with theCollege procedure.Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In allcommunication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.MidKent College is an equal opportunities employ.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: M0450

House Pastoral Manager

Folkestone
Salary Equates to £20,063
To apply/more information:
Folkestone Academy
sally.taylor@folkestoneacademy.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

PUBLIC NOTICES

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LICENSING ACT 2003
NOTICE OF APPLICATION - PREMISES LICENCE

I, Omer Dirilmis, have applied to Tunbridge Wells Borough Council for the variation of the existing licences for the premises: King Grill, 88 Camden Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 2QP
in order:
To provide late night refreshment from 23:00hrs - Monday to Wednesday until 02:30hrs; Thursday until 03:00hrs; Friday & Saturday until 05:00hrs and Sunday until 02:00hrs the following day.

Full details of the application can be viewed in Tunbridge Wells Council's Licensing Register, which is available for inspection at: the Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1RS
Residents and businesses in the vicinity of the premises, or their representatives, may make representations in respect of the application. Any representations must be made in writing and be received by: The Licensing Dept. Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1RS. by no later than: Friday 13th August 2010
It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to £5,000 to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with the application.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

Applications have been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as venues for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **Thistle Brands Hatch, Brands Hatch, Dartford**
Applicant: **Sarah Davidson**
Name of Premises: **Acacia Hall, High Street, Dartford**
Applicant: **Frank Brown**

The applications and plans of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
First Floor, Invicta House
Maidstone
Kent, ME14 1XX

Kent County Council

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

10/02267/FUL Swaylands Penshurst Road, Bidborough
- Retrospective: 1.8m high close boarded boundary fence (LB)

10/02097/HOUSE Postern Park Postern Lane, Capel
- Repair and renovation with removal of part of flank wall and creation of new single storey extension; Demolition of existing timber/corrugated metal garage/store adjacent and erection of new garage/storage building and revision to vehicular turning/parking arrangements within the site (LB)

10/02102/LBC Postern Park Postern Lane, Capel
- Listed Building Consent - Repair and renovation together with removal of part of flank wall and creation of new single storey extension. Demolition of existing timber/corrugated metal garage/store adjacent and erection of new garage/storage building and revision to vehicular turning/parking arrangements within the site (LB)

10/02205/FUL Barn & Land Hawkridge Farm, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Conversion of barn to a single residential dwelling (LB)

10/02220/LBC Bettenham Manor Bettenham Lane, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed Building Consent - Installation of damp proof membrane to basement and roundels; repairs to the timber frame structure; timber treatment and preservative works; retention of existing external security devices; installation of new light units to rear door and first and second floor external doors to the oast house (LB)

10/02239/FUL Turks Barn The Meads, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Erection of open fronted three bay garage incorporating a home office (LB)

10/02151/FUL 22 Mount Ephraim Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
- Conversion of office block to 3 two-bedroom flats (LB) (CA)

10/02156/LBC 22 Mount Ephraim Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
- Listed Building Consent - Conversion of office block to 3 two bedroom flats (LB)

10/02253/FUL 4 Clanricarde Gardens Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
- Removal of condition 3 - The accommodation shall be used for the provision of any medical or health services as identified within class D1. Removal of condition 4 - The area at the rear of the property to be used as parking (TW/06/01634/FUL refers) (CA)

10/02196/HOUSE Stable Cottage Bedgebury Road, Goudhurst
- Replacement windows and new porch to front door (LB)

10/02197/LBC Stable Cottage Bedgebury Road, Goudhurst
- Listed Building Consent - Replacement windows and new porch to front door (LB)

10/02266/HOUSE Little Combourne Cottage Jarvis Lane, Goudhurst
- Proposed lean-to side extension to form garden room with en-suite and store within the roof space; two storey side extension (PROW)

10/02144/FUL King George V Playing Fields The Moor, Hawkhurst
- Change of use of land from agricultural to amenity to extend recreation area (CA)

10/02218/HOUSE 17 College Drive Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park
- Single-storey side and rear extension (CA) (LB)

10/02250/FULMJ Pembury Hospital Tonbridge Road, Pembury
- Variation of Conditions (28) and (29) of planning permission TW/07/02595/FULMJ - Redevelopment of existing Pembury Hospital for 512 bed, approx 65,000 msq district general hospital, 984 car parking spaces, improvements to the public highway, new site access, servicing, landscaping and associated works/plant equipment (MAJOR) (LB)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 24 July 2010

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford

HUNTER ROAD, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) ALBEMARLE ROAD, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on Hunter Road, Ashford on or after 27 July 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed for its entire length. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with A292 Hythe Road and Osborne Road.

The alternative route is via A292 Hythe Road, Albemarle Road and Osborne Road.

Because of the use of Albemarle Road as a diversion route, waiting will be prohibited on the west side of Albemarle Road between the junctions with Osborne Road and Glover Road, and Glover Road and Hythe Road. This is for the duration of these works.

COURT LODGE ROAD, APPLEDORE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting traffic on Court Lodge Road, Appledore from 9 August 2010 for up to 10 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with The Street and Ferry Road.

The alternative route is via via B2080 The Street, Tenterden Road and Ferry Road

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

NARGATE STREET, LITTLEBOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of BT cabling & jointing works, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on Nargate Street, Littlebourne from 26 July 2010 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between property numbers 1 and 12.

The alternative route is via High Street, Jubilee Road and Church Road.

ST STEPHEN'S ROAD, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of gas mains replacement works, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting through traffic on St Stephen's Road, Canterbury from 26 July 2010 for up to 6 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between house number 99 and the junction with Hales Drive. There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with St Stephen's Court and Hales Drive. The junction with Hales Drive will remain open during the works.

The alternative route is via St Stephen's Road, North Lane, St Dunstan's Street, Forty Acres Road, Beaconsfield Road and St Stephen's Green.

Alternative routes avoiding the St Dunstan's area are:

From St Stephen's Hill via Downs Road, Tenterden Drive, Farleigh Road, Broad Oak Road and St Stephen's Road

From Kingsmead Road / Broad Oak Road via Farleigh Road, Tenterden Drive, The Terrace and Manwood Avenue.

MICKLEBURGH HILL/MARGATE ROAD, HERNE BAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting traffic on Mickleburgh Hill/Margate Road, Herne Bay from 9 August 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junction with Reculver Road and the north roundabout of the A299 Thanet Way junction.

The alternative route is via Mickleburgh Hill, A291 Canterbury Road and A299 Thanet Way.

WRENTHAM AVENUE, HERNE BAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of water main replacement, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting through traffic on Wrentham Avenue, Herne Bay from 2 August 2010 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the south east corner of the road, between property numbers 34 and 55.

The alternative route for property numbers 1-53 and 2-34 is via Wrentham Avenue, and for the remainder via Blackburn Road and Wrentham Avenue.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

CHURCH HILL, WILMINGTON (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Church Hill, Wilmington between its junctions with Hill Road and Hawley Road.

The Order will become effective on 26th July 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 26th July and last for up to 6 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: High Road, Wilmington; Common Lane, Wilmington; Oakfield Lane, Wilmington/Dartford; and Hawley Road, Dartford.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Water Main Laying works for Thames Water.

HEATH LANE, DARTFORD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Heath Lane, Dartford at its junction with Princes Road for a distance (NE) of 6om.

The Order will become effective on 9th August 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Highfield Road, Princes Road and Heath Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate construction works to the traffic island.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

MIDDLE STREET & SILVER STREET, DEAL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of replace the gas supply, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting traffic on Middle Street & Silver Street, Deal on or after 10 August 2010 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

Middle Street will be closed outside no.145. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions of Golden Street and Griffin Street. Silver Street will be closed at the junction with Middle Street.

The alternative route is via Griffin Street, High Street and New Street.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

VARIOUS ROADS, GRAVESHAM (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT NO 6) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council propose to make the above named Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), and 124 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to;

1. introduce no waiting at any time (double yellow line) restrictions on the following roads or lengths of road:

Lapis Close - Chalk	Lower Higher Road - Chalk
Orlick Road - Chalk	Hillside Avenue - Gravesend
Thomas Drive - Gravesend	Valley Drive - Gravesend
Brook Road - Northfleet	First Avenue - Northfleet
Foxwood Grove - Northfleet	Preston Road - Northfleet
St Mark's Avenue Northfleet	Park Avenue - Northfleet
Preston Road - Northfleet	Vale Road - Northfleet
Waterdales - Northfleet	

Full details are contained in the draft Orders which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Gravesham Borough Council Offices, Civic Centre, Gravesham and at Invicta House, Maidstone during normal opening times.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to the Kent Highway Services First Floor, St Lawrence House, 48A West Hill, Dartford, Kent, DA1 2EU by noon on Monday 16 August 2010.

Highways - Borough of Maidstone

SALT LANE LOOSE MAIDSTONE (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Salt Lane Loose Maidstone the whole length of the road on or after Monday 26th July 2010 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is via Hubbards Lane , Heath Road , Linton Road, and Old Loose Hill.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused, which are necessary for essential drainage

Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Jamie Cunningham on 08458 2478000.

MARION CRESENT , MAIDSTONE (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Noticeis hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on Marion Crescent Maidstone outside and opposite the vicinity of number on or after Monday 26th July 2010 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is Cranborne Avenue and Plains Avenue.

EDF apologise for any inconvenience caused by the works to enable them to lay cable for new services. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Steve Bicknell on 08000835234.

SYMONDS LANE, YALDING (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on Symonds Lane Yalding. This order will come into effect on or after Sunday 1st August 2010 or a period of up to 8 Weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the road closure on Symonds Lane is Benover Road and Lees Road Yalding.

Southern Gas Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential Gas Mains replacement. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is John Adsley on 07774983419.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

FRANKS LANE, HORTON KIRBY (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Franks Lane, Horton Kirby for its entire length.

The Order will become effective on 26th July 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 1st August 2010 and last 5 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the restriction above will be via: Eglantine Lane, A20 Main Road, A225 Dartford Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate drainage works.

LONDON ROAD, WEST KINGSDOWN (TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF CYCLE LANE) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order suspending the cycle only lane traffic order on London Road, West Kingsdown between the Texaco garage and Hever Road.

The Order will become effective on 9th August 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 2 weeks. This suspension will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The purpose of the suspension is to facilitate alterations to existing vehicle cross over and splitter island at 3 Horseshoes.

OAK LANE, SEVENOAKS (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Oak Lane, Sevenoaks between its junctions with Dibden Lane and Fig Street.

The Order will become effective on 9th August 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 6 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Ashgrove Road, Weald Road, A225 Tonbridge Road, Gracious Lane and Oak Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate gas mains replacement.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

QUEENS ROAD, LITTLESTONE PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of the installation of a new wastewater pipeline, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on Queens Road, Littlestone from 26 July 2010 for up to 14 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The closure will be in rolling sections from outside number 4 to outside number 95, as signposted on site.

The alternative route is via Station Approach, Littlestone Road and Park Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, THE DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY (PROHIBITION OF WAITING, PROHIBITION OF LOADING AND UNLOADING) (AMENDMENT NO. 3) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council proposes to make the above named Order under sections 1, 2 and 124 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to introduce no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the following lengths of the eastern side of Coast Drive, Lydd on Sea:

From a point opposite a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 144 and 146 Coast Drive for a distance of 80 metres in a northerly direction.

From a point opposite a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 160 and 161Coast Drive for a distance of 20 metres in a northerly direction.

From a point opposite a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 176 and 178 Coast Drive for a distance of 50 metres in a northerly direction.

From a point opposite a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 198 and 220 Coast Drive for a distance of 50 metres in a northerly direction.

From a point opposite a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 268 and 270 Coast Drive for a distance of 50 metres in a northerly direction.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be examined on Mondays to Fridays in the offices of Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, between 9.00am and 5.00pm and at Sessions House, Maidstone during normal opening times.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order, you should send the grounds for your objection in writing to Highway Services, Transport and Development, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to td.dover.shepway@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 30 August 2010.

SIR JOHN MOORE AVENUE, HYTHE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of the installation of a new electrical supply, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting traffic on Sir John Moore Avenue, Hythe from 9 August 2010 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at its west junction with Military Road. The alternative route is via the east junction with Military Road.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

BECKETT ROAD, BROOKLAND (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting traffic on Beckett Road, Brookland from 9 August 2010 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junction with A259 Rye Road and Sconces Bridge. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with Rye Road and Harvey Road.

The alternative route is via A259 Rye Road and Harvey Road.

SANDLING ROAD, SALTWOOD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting traffic on Sandling Road, Saltwood on or after 11 August 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junction with A20 Ashford Road and Sandling Railway Station.

The alternative route is via A20 Ashford Road, A261 Hythe Road, London Road, Barrack Hill, North Road, Bartholemew Lane, School Road and Sandling Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

VARIOUS ROADS, SWALE (PROHIBITION OF STOPPING OUTSIDE SCHOOLS) (AMENDMENT NO. 2) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council propose to make the above named Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will introduce "School Keep Clear" zigzag markings to prevent parking along the frontage of Iwade County Primary School in the vicinity of the pedestrian crossing on the northern side of School Lane from a point adjacent to the school/shop car park entrance for a distance of 43 metres in a westerly direction

This Order is necessary for safety reasons, and will make stopping on the "School Keep Clear" zigzag markings from Mondays to Fridays from 8.00am to 5.00am during school term times an infringement which may be dealt with by the issue of a penalty charge notice.

A copy of the proposed Order, statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, a map indicating the location and the effect and a copy of any other Orders which will be amended by the proposed Order may be examined at the Council Offices of Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent and at Kent County Council, Sessions House, Maidstone during normal opening times.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send your grounds for your observations in writing to the Transport and Development Manager Kent Highway Services, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to td.ashford.swale@kent.gov.uk by 12 noon on Monday 9 August 2010.

RUSHENDEN RELIEF ROAD, SITTINGBOURNE (30 MPH, 40 MPH AND 50 MPH SPEED LIMITS) (ORDER 2010)

Notice is hereby given that the Kent County Council proposes to make the above named Order under section 84(1), (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, (hereinafter called "the Act") and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act,

Rushenden Relief Roads

The effect of the proposed Order will introduce a 30 mph speed limit on Thomsett Way from the junction with Rushenden Road for a distance of 60 metres in an easterly direction.

The effect of this Order will also introduce a 40 mph speed limit on the following lengths of roads:

Thomsett Way: From a point 60 metres east of the junction with Rushenden Road to a point 130 metres south west of the junction with the A249 Sheppey Way roundabout.

Sparshott Way: From the northern most extremity of Sparshott Way to the junction with Cullett Drive roundabout.

Cullet Drive: From the junction with Culet Drive roundabout for a distance of 100 metres in a southerly direction.

The effect of this Order will also introduce a 50 mph speed limit on Thomsett Way from the junction with the A249 Sheppey Way roundabout for a distance of 130 metres in a south westerly direction.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, between 9.00am and 5pm, at Kent Highway Services, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford and at Invicta House, Maidstone.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to the Kent Highway Services, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to td.ashford.swale@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 16 August 2010.

VICARAGE LANE, OSPRINGE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of upgrading the water mains and works on the M2 overbridge, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting traffic on Vicarage Lane, Ospringe from 9 August 2010 for up to 6 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with the pumping station northwards for a distance of approximately 300 metres. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions of Brogdale Road and Mutton Lane.

The alternative route is via Vicarage Lane, Water Lane, A2 London Road and Brogdale Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

ALBION ROAD, BIRCHINGTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway and footway repairs the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting through traffic on Albion Road, Birchington, on or after 26 July 2010 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at in 2 phases, as follows.

Phase 1 will be from the junction with Station Road up to the entrance to the car park opposite Taplin Court for 3 days.

Phase 2 from the car park entrance to the junction with Crescent Road for 2 days.

Access to the car park will be maintained with the drection of appraoch signposted on site.

The alternative route is via Station Road and Alpha Road.

It is planned the works will be carried out between the hours of 9.00 am and 4.00 pm, with the road re-opened outside these hours.

A28 CANTERBURY ROAD, BIRCHINGTON PROHIBITION OF U –TURNS (TRAFFIC REGULATION) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council proposed to make an Order under sections 1(1) and (2), 2(1) to (3) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order will prohibit any vehicle making a U-Turn travelling south westwards on A28 Canterbury Road , Birchington from a point 140 metres south west of the junction with Seamark Road (adjacent to property known as Farley House) and travelling north eastwards from the junction with St Nicholas Roundabout to a point 140 metres north east of the junction with Seamark Road.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Kent Highway Services, Javelin Way Ashford, TN24 8AD, between 8.30am and 5.00pm, and at Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate, during normal opening times.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to Transport & Development, Kent Highway Services, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to td.canterbury.thanet@kent.gov.uk by Monday 16 August 2010.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

COMP LANE, POTASH LANE & BONEASHE LANE, PLATT (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in the Schedule.

The alternative routes as described will be noted in the schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure. The Order will become effective on Monday 26th July 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

Schedule

Road Name: **Comp Lane, Platt**
Extent: From junction of Potash Lane for 200 metres east
Dates: Start: 26th July 2010 End: 28th July 2010
Diversion: Beechin Wood Lane, Boneashe Lane, Potash Lane

Road Name: **Potash Lane, Platt**
Extent: From junction of Comp Lane past junction of Boneashe Lane
Dates: Start: 29th July 2010 End: 5th August 2010
Diversion: Comp Lane, Long Mill Lane, Potash Lane

Road Name: **Boneashe Lane, Platt**
Extent: From the crossroad with Potash Lane to Comp Lane
Dates: Start: 6th August 2010 End: 20th August 2010
Diversion: Boneashe Lane, Beechin Wood Lane, Comp Lane

Road Name: **Comp Lane, Platt**
Extent: Boneashe Road to Long Mill Lane
Dates: Start: 23rd August 2010 End: 3rd September 2010
Diversion: Long Mill Lane, Potash Lane

EDF Energy apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to install new electrical supplies. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is David Creasey of Amber Langis Ltd on 01732 783985.

TUDELEY LANE, TONBRIDGE (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Tudeley Lane at The Priory Mill Bridge on or after Monday 9th August 2010 for a period of up to 6 months or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Tudeley Lane, A2014 Pembury Road, A26 Woodgate Way, Five Oak Green Road.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to demolish and rebuild the Priory Mill Bridge for highway safety. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Martin Addison of Ringway Highway Services Ltd on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

ALDERS ROAD CAPEL (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Alders Road Capel from the junction of Maidstone Road to Reeds Farm Cottages , Paddock Wood or after Monday 26th for a period of up to 3 days or until such works are completed

The diversion is as follows Sychem Lane , Five Oak Green Road, Badsell Road and Maidstone Road .

BT apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works to access overhead network. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Nicola Webb on 08700500792 216.

BURSLEM ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Burslem Road outside and oppersite the vicinity of number 31 on or after Sunday 25th July 2010 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is Friars Way, Birken Road and Harries Road.

EDF apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential cabling works, which are necessary to enable cabling for a new electrical supply. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Steve Bicknell on 0800 0835234.

SLIP MILL ROAD, HAWKHURST (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Slip Mill Road Hawkhurt from the junction with A229 Hawkhurst Road for a distance of approx 50 metres on or after Monday 26th July 2010 for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is via A229 Hawkhurst Road , Limes Grove and vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused, which are necessary to allow construction of build outs at the junction with A229 Hawkhurst road to reduce overall width of the junction Once works are completed, the right turn into A229 Hawkhurst Road will be banned along with No entry onto Slip Mill Road from A229 Hawkhurst Road.

Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Simon Allsop on 08458 2478000.

ASHURST HILL, ASHURST (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Ashurst Hill at the railway bridge on or after Wednesday 28th July 2010 between the hours of 23:00hrs and 05:00hrs for a period of up to 2 nights or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via A264 Ashurst Road, B2110 Groombridge Hill, B2110 Withyham Road, B2026 Edenbridge Road, A264 Ashurst Road and vice versa.

Connect Traffic Management apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to remove and replace damaged chevrons. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contact is Mark Reeves on 07984 716357.

A26 LONDON ROAD, SOUTHBOROUGH (30MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the likelihood of danger to the public using a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic traveling at any speed greater than 30mph on A26 London Road from Quarry Hill for 1.5 miles traveling west on or after Monday 9th August 2010 for a period of up to 6 weeks or until such works are completed.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for highway improvement works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Darren Hickman on 08458 247 800.

GLADSTONE ROAD, RUSTHALL (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order to introduce a temporary 24 hour no-waiting restriction on either side of Gladstone Road, Rusthall from the junction of the High Street to outside Simmonds Court on or after Monday 9th August 2010 for a period of up to 15 months or until such works are completed.

Denne Construction Limited apologise for any inconvenience caused, as it is necessary to keep their construction site access clear. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact number is 01795 434700.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

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Green but blue and can average nearly 75mpg

By **STEVE LOADER**

VOLKSWAGEN'S ultra-green Golf BlueMotion scooped the top award at the prestigious What Car? Magazine Green Awards.

The 1.6 TDI 105 five-door can average nearly 75mpg and What Car? editor-in-chief Steve Fowler predicted that VW dealers would be getting some traffic.

He said: "Volkswagen has built a hugely desirable car that's big on ability, but small on running costs.

"The Golf BlueMotion does an enviable 74.3mpg and emits just 99g/km of CO2, which means it is exempt from road tax, while company car tax will be based on just 13 per cent of its £18,685 list price.

"It's a package that's hard to beat. VW dealers are going to be busy."

Volkswagen's head of chassis development Professor Dr Stefan Gies responded by saying: "Ever since the first BlueMotion model was launched in 2007, our strategy for this environmental sub-brand has been to produce class-leading vehicles which are efficient, sustainable, practical, comfortable and competitively priced.

"This is what our customers want and all these values are encapsulated in the Golf."

The Golf was also named best Green Small Family Car and beat eight other category winners to that overall Green Car of the Year title. VW also won the Family Car category with its Passat 1.6 TDI 105 BlueMotion.

The judges said: "This is the green family car that families will want rather than the one they think they should have."

At opposite ends of the market, the Fiat 500 1.2 Pop was awarded best Green Supermini, while the British-built Jaguar XJ collected the award for Best Green Luxury Car.

Another British-built winner was the Nissan Qashqai in the Crossover category, which it won for its cost-effectiveness, practicality, comfort, drivability and environmental credentials.

BMW's 3-Series was the best Green Executive Car for the second year running, but this year it was the 320d Efficient Dynamics model that won for a package of great driver appeal, 68.9mpg economy, low tax liability as well as low NOx (nitrous oxide) and particulate emissions.

The Peugeot 5008 is the best Green MPV you can buy said the judges. It offers seven seats a combined 53.2mpg and 140g/km C02 plus top-level safety kit and security features.

And Honda's new CR-Z hybrid was Green Sports Car 2010.

Judges praised its low CO2 and high mpg, and said: "The CR-Z is small and light, so it doesn't need a massively powerful engine, and that means it's clean, efficient and good to drive."

The What Car? Used Green Car award sponsored by Warranty Direct was new for this year and went to the Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi 90 Style five-door (2008 model year).

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09 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, BLACK, 750 MILES £14,995
09 FORD FOCUS TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 650 MILES £14,995
09 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, STEPPE BROWN, 8000 MILES £13,995
09 FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 MILES £12,995
09 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE LWB 5DR HATCH AUTO, BROWN, 5000 MILES £12,995
09 MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 MILES £12,495
09 FORD FOCUS C-MAX ZETEC 145 MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES £11,995
10 FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1400 MILES £11,995
09 SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 MILES £10,495
09 NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1800 MILES £10,495
09 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, BEIGEBUFF, 2000 MILES £10,495
09 NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES £9,995
09 DAIHATSU MATERIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, MAROON, 1900 MILES £9,995
09 VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 MILES £9,495
09 KIA PICANTO 2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ORANGE, 2000 MILES £7,995
09 PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 5DR HATCH AUTO, YELLOW, 1500 MILES £7,995

CONVERTIBLES CABRIOLETS

09 MERCEDES-BENZ CLK CLK200 KOMPRESSOR AVANTGARDE CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 13000 MILES £29,950
08 RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, RED, 5000 MILES £12,995
07 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 MILES £10,995
08 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 MILES £10,995
06 NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 MILES £9,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 MILES £9,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 16000 MILES £9,995
06 NISSAN MICRA CC ESSENZA CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 28000 MILES £8,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 19000 MILES £8,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 MILES £8,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 MILES £8,995
05 VAUXHALL TIGRA SPORT 16V TWINPORT COUPE, BLACK, 25000 MILES £7,995
05 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 MILES £7,495

FIESTA

09 VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 3000 MILES £10,995
06 FORD FIESTA ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, TONIC BLUE, 1600 MILES £7,495
07 FORD FIESTA STYLE CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 19000 MILES £6,995
07 FORD FIESTA STYLE CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 MILES £5,995
02 FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 40000 MILES £3,995

FOCUS ESTATES

09 FORD FOCUS C-MAX ZETEC 145 MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES £11,995
07 FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 15000 MILES £7,995
06 FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 MILES £7,495
06 FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V ESTATE AUTO, TONIC BLUE, 18000 MILES £6,995
06 FORD FOCUS LX 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 MILES £6,995
06 FORD FOCUS LX 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 MILES £6,995

RENAULT SCENIC

08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIC TD MPV AUTO, EXTREME BLUE, 10000 MILES £10,995
07 RENAULT GRAND SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 15000 MILES £9,995
08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, RED, 6000 MILES £9,995
08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 MILES £9,995
07 RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GOLD, 9000 MILES £8,995
07 RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 136 MPV AUTO, GOLD, 23000 MILES £8,995
08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLACK, 18000 MILES £8,495
08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 MILES £8,495
07 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLACK, 15000 MILES £7,995
06 RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT MPV AUTO, BLACK, 16000 MILES £7,995
06 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 16000 MILES £7,495
06 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GOLD, 16000 MILES £7,495
06 RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 ESTATE AUTO, GOLD, 17000 MILES £6,995
06 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 MILES £6,495

RENAULT

08 RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, RED, 5000 MILES £12,995
08 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 MILES £10,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 16000 MILES £9,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 MILES £9,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 MILES £8,995
06 RENAULT LAGUNA EXPRESSION SPORT TOURER 16V ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 13000 MILES £8,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 19000 MILES £8,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 MILES £8,995
08 RENAULT MEGANE EXPRESSION VVT 111 ESTATE CAR ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 600 MILES £8,995
08 RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 750 MILES £7,995
08 RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES £7,995
07 RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 16000 MILES £7,995
07 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 15000 MILES £7,995
05 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 MILES £7,495
06 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT MPV AUTO, GOLD, 21000 MILES £6,995
07 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 MILES £5,995
05 RENAULT MODUS PRIVILEGE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 39000 MILES £4,995

CHEVROLET

08 CHEVROLET AVEO LT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 999 MILES £7,995
08 CHEVROLET AVEO LT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 MILES £7,995
09 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 MILES £7,995
09 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 9000 MILES £7,495
08 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 5000 MILES £6,995
08 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 MILES £6,995
08 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES £5,995
07 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 MILES £5,995
07 CHEVROLET KALOS SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 20000 MILES £5,495
06 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 MILES £5,495
07 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 14000 MILES £4,995
07 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 MILES £4,995
08 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE PLUS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 3000 MILES £4,995
05 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 28000 MILES £3,995

HYUNDAI

08 HYUNDAI GETZ GSI 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 MILES £7,995
07 HYUNDAI ACCENT ATLANTIC LIMITED EDITION 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 MILES £6,995
08 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 5000 MILES £6,995
06 HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 9000 MILES £6,495
07 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 MILES £5,995
08 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 24000 MILES £5,995
07 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, YELLOW, 9000 MILES £5,995
06 HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH, SEASIDE BLUE, 40000 MILES £4,995
06 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 MILES £4,995
06 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 31000 MILES £4,995

DAIHATSU

09 DAIHATSU MATERIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, MAROON, 1900 MILES £9,995
08 DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 MILES £7,995
08 DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 MILES £7,995
07 DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 MILES £7,495
07 DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 MILES £6,995

BMW

05 BMW 3 SERIES 320D ES TOURING TD ESTATE, GREY, 5100 MILES £12,995

FIAT

06 FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 MILES £5,995
07 FIAT PANDA DYNAMIC 5DR HATCH, GREY, 8000 MILES £4,995

FUSION

10 FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1400 MILES £11,995
08 FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 MILES £8,995
08 FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 MILES £8,995
07 FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 MILES £8,995
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07 FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 MILES £6,995

CITROEN

08 CITROEN C4 SX 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1800 MILES £9,995
08 CITROEN C3 EXCLUSIVE HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 MILES £8,495
06 CITROEN XSARA PICASSO EXCLUSIVE 16V ESTATE AUTO, RED, 16000 MILES £7,995
02 CITROEN SAXO DESIRE 3DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 54000 MILES £2,995

CORSA

08 VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 MILES £8,495
08 VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 MILES £8,495
08 VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 2000 MILES £8,495
06 VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, MAUVE, 19000 MILES £7,995
08 VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 4000 MILES £7,995
07 VAUXHALL CORSA LIFE AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 MILES £6,995
04 VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 12000 MILES £4,495
03 VAUXHALL CORSA ECO 12V 5DR HATCH, GREEN, 29000 MILES £3,495

SUZUKI

09 SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 MILES £10,495
07 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA VVT + ESTATE 4X4, BLUE, 19000 MILES £8,995
06 SUZUKI IGNIS GL VVT-S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 16000 MILES £5,995
06 SUZUKI SWIFT GLX VVTS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 40000 MILES £5,995
05 SUZUKI LIANA GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 51000 MILES £4,995

TOYOTA

07 TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4X4, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 MILES £13,995
07 TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4X4, GREY, 17000 MILES £13,995
07 TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO T3 VVT-I MPV, RED, 25000 MILES £10,495
07 TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 MILES £9,995
07 TOYOTA COROLLA T3 COLOUR COLLECTION VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 MILES £9,995
07 TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, IXION BLUE, 13000 MILES £9,995
08 TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 MILES £8,995
08 TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 MILES £8,995
07 TOYOTA AURIS T3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 MILES £8,995
07 TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, VENETIAN SILVER, 23000 MILES £7,495
04 TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 MILES £6,995
07 TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, KIELDER GREEN, 11000 MILES £6,995
04 TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 MILES £5,995

NISSAN

07 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 MILES £10,995
09 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, BEIGEBUFF, 2000 MILES £10,495
09 NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1800 MILES £10,495
09 NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES £9,995
06 NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 MILES £9,995
06 NISSAN MICRA CC ESSENZA CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 28000 MILES £8,995
08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA PLUS 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 MILES £8,495
08 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, RED, 14000 MILES £8,495
07 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 MILES £7,995
07 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BEIGEBUFF, 18000 MILES £7,495
06 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 MILES £6,995
07 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 MILES £6,995
07 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 27000 MILES £5,995
04 NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 MILES £5,495
04 NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, ARUBA BLUE, 9000 MILES £5,495
04 NISSAN ALMERA TINO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 31000 MILES £4,995
03 NISSAN ALMERA TINO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 32000 MILES £4,495
02 NISSAN MICRA S 5DR HATCH, RED, 27000 MILES £2,995

ROVER

03 ROVER 45 IMPRESSION S 3 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 43000 MILES £2,995

ASTRA HATCHBACKS

08 VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE CDTI 8V 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 11000 MILES £12,995
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 14000 MILES £9,995
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 HATCH AUTO, SILVER, 9000 MILES £8,995
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 14000 MILES £8,995
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 MILES £8,995
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 2000 MILES £8,495
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 10000 MILES £7,995
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 MILES £7,995
06 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 MILES £6,495

ASTRA ESTATES

08 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, ECLIPSE BLACK, 5000 MILES £10,995
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, PANNACOTTA, 15000 MILES £8,995
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 MILES £8,495
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 MILES £7,995
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 MILES £7,995
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 15000 MILES £7,495
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 1800 MILES £7,495
06 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 11000 MILES £6,995
06 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 13000 MILES £6,995
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FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES FOR THE GRAND CHEROKEE S-LIMITED 3.0 V6 DIESEL IN MPG (L/100KM): URBAN 21.6 (13.1), EXTRA URBAN 32.8 (8.6), COMBINED 27.7 (10.2), CO_2 EMISSIONS IN G/KM 270.

*Model shown is a Grand Cherokee S-Limited at £33,995 OTR. Model features optional metallic paint at an additional £500 including VAT. On the road price includes Vehicle Excise Duty (VED), First Registration Fee and VAT. Prices and specifications correct at time of going to press (07/10). **Promotion available on new Jeep Grand Cherokee 3.0 CRD S-Limited registered between 1st July and 30th September 2010 at participating dealers. Initial payment varies dependent on model and mileage, and is typically between 60% and 70%. Further charges may be made subject to the condition of the vehicle, if the vehicle is returned at the end of the finance agreement. Finance subject to status. Guarantees may be required. Chrysler Group Financial Services, PO BOX 108, Leeds LS27 0WU. Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Muscular Murano gets diesel power

NISSAN appears nigh on unstoppable in the hatchback/MPV/SUV crossover sector it identified with the successful Qashqai.

It will shortly launch a baby version called the Juke and has brought out a revised version of the big Murano SUV as a flagship to sit at the top of this crossover line-up.

And it is now offered with diesel power, a 190PS (188bhp) 2.5-litre that can average around 35mpg and expected to cater for 90 per cent of sales – it is available to order now from £37,795.

The Murano was always hamstrung by being available only with a muscular petrol engine to complement its considerable style and flexibility, but economy with sportiness is now the holy grail with buyers in this class as Mazda has shown with the diesel version of the CX-7 – similarly held back by a petrol-only pitch.

Nissan now has an unerring eye for the market – this re-positioning alongside and upstream of the Qashqai and Juke should be another master stroke.

Bicentenary marked by 200bhp 308 GTI

TO CELEBRATE the 200th anniversary of the brand, Peugeot has launched – rather aptly – a 200bhp GTI version of its popular 308 hatchback five-door.

Priced at £21,995, it is powered by the French brand's turbocharged 200bhp THP petrol engine/six-speed gearbox powertrain, shared with the stunning new RCZ coupé. This delivers low C02 emissions at 159g/km as well as lively performance.

With a nice nod to the brand's GTI heyday of the 1980s/90s, the commemorative model has been given the stylistic works with 'lowering' panels and spoilers and twin chrome rear exhaust pipes. Inside there are: sports seats, aluminium pedals, footrest and gear lever knob, leather sports steering wheel with aluminium detailing and a black lacquer fascia front panel.

Countdown to Corsa cuts begins

VAUXHALL'S popular Corsa supermini is being offered for less that £8,000 as the headline deal in the brand's Big Summer Countdown until July 31.

The tempting package is on the Corsa S 1.0-litre three-door model and under Vauxhall's Swappage Support part-exchange scheme – it represents a £3,035 saving over its list price of £11,030.

Vauxhall marketing chief Peter Hope said: "The terrific deals being offered in the Big Summer Vauxhall Countdown are exemplified by the new Corsa being made available for less than £8,000."

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km) for the 207 range are: Urban 49.5-28.5 (5.7-9.9), Extra Urban 76.3-49.5 (3.7-5.7), Combined 64.2-39.2 (4.4-7.2), CO_2 171 - 99 (g/km).

Terms and conditions apply; see participating dealers or visit www.peugeot.co.uk. *The first year Road Fund License (RFL) is included in the on the road price. The Dealer will provide customers with a cheque equivalent to twice the current RFL cost. It is the customer's responsibility to apply for RFL for years 2 and 3. Terms and conditions apply. Participating Dealers only. Just Add Fuel (JAF) package subject to status and conditions . †Minimum age 25 years, 30 years on selected models, maximum age 75 years. All drivers must meet the driver eligibility criteria, which includes driving conviction and claim restrictions. Excesses apply. 3 years free motor insurance will be provided and underwritten by UK Insurance Ltd, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. A guarantee may be required. Written quotations available on request from Peugeot Financial Services, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Redhill, RH1 1QA. JAF is incorporated into a Personal Lease contract. ^207 Millesim 1.4 8V 3dr advance rental £1,535, optional final rental of £4,933, 35 monthly rentals payable. If you choose to pay off the optional final rental at the end of contract, you can keep the car but will not own it – you will pay an annual rental equivalent to one of your monthly rentals. Excess mileage charges may apply. Routine servicing included only. Excludes wear parts. This offer is not available in Northern Ireland. Offer available on vehicles ordered and registered by 30 September 2010. Model Exclusion apply. (PEUG36218)

'I Go' keeps on going in city car race

by SAMDAVISON

FIVE years on from launch we can see how well Toyota judged the city car sector by leading the tri-partite small car project that spawned its Aygo baby car.

Using Toyota's engineering and manufacturing clout, Peugeot and Citroën have also benefited through their own 107 and C1 models respectively, produced at the same low-cost plant established in Eastern Europe.

As we often report, creating an attractive small car after agreeing that it needs to seat four adults in reasonable comfort, while pleasing the wind tunnel, is a tough call for designers – big cars offer so much more room and flexibility to play with.

But Toyota's Aygo (priced from £8,220) manages to be distinctively different from its French-badged sisters, while also having a highly-respected dealership network behind it.

It was recently given a facelift and the benefit of Toyota's Optimal Drive treatment – a re-work of the engine retaining power, while achieving the apparent contradiction of better fuel consumption and lower emissions.

The three or five-door hatchback's little 68bhp 1.0-litre engine is nippy enough around town and capable of cruising the motorway yet should average more than 60mpg, emits just 106g/km of CO_2 and sits in the lowest insurance bracket, making it hard to argue against as an urban runabout or budget second car.

Toyota has also marketed the car cleverly with regular special editions and up-spec packages – an Aygo Black flagship (from £9,460) was launched in March.

Along with the neat styling, the clever name – pronounced 'I Go', this has also made it a trendier choice than some rivals in the sector.

The optional multi-mode M/M, which does away with the clutch, is popular too with those who buy cars for use in crowded town centres and adds just £500 to the price.

It simply does the clutch operation for you, so the Aygo remains as economical as ever, but can be left in full auto mode or driven with manual shifts selected in sequence for fun driving. With just 68bhp on tap, the Aygo is no racehorse, but a stiff suspension means that it can be driven with verve.

The cabin is reasonably spacious for the size of the car, but possibly at the expense of the boot which is tiny and accessed via a small opening – even with seats folded flat, this is not a hatchback for moving furniture in.

Nevertheless, the Aygo remains fresh in an increasingly competitive sector as people downsize their car choice.

DrivingPortfolio

TOYOTA AYGO £8,200

Driving appeal (OUT OF FIVE)	★★★
Image	★★★★
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Value	★★★★
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ACCESS 7

KIA MOTORS
The Power to Surprise

Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the range of vehicles shown are: Urban: 30.7 (9.2) - 52.3 (5.4). Extra Urban: 50.4 (5.6) - 68.9 (4.1). Combined: 40.4 (7.0) - 62.8 (4.5). CO2 emissions are 165 - 114 g/km.

7 year / 100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. See your local dealer or visit www.kia.co.uk for full warranty terms and conditions. Prices correct at time of going to press and specifications are subject to change without notice. Models shown: 1.0 Picanto 1 @ £7,290 On The Road (OTR) including metallic paint at £395; 1.4 Rio 1 @ £8,290 OTR including metallic paint at £395. OTR prices include VAT at 17.5%, number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vehicle First Registration Fee. Metallic / mica paint is available for an extra charge. Retail customers only. Subject to availability on vehicles registered between 01 July 2010 and 30 September 2010. 4.9% finance available on Kia Personal Contract Purchase on Kia Picanto 1 and Rio 1 models, excluding Domino and Strike special editions. At the end of the Personal Contract Purchase there are three options: (i) Pay the GPV (Guaranteed Future Value) to own the vehicle (ii) Part exchange the vehicle, where equity is available or (iii) return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to the condition of the vehicle. Offer not available in conjunction with any other offer. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantors / Indemnities may be required. Kia Financial Services RH1 1SR. A £59 inc. VAT admin fee (security checks and fuel) will be added to all vehicle purchases, this includes £20 worth of fuel. All offers and vehicles offered are subject to availability while stocks last. Please note, models portrayed are for illustration purposes only. Telephone calls may be recorded for training purposes. E&OE.

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Model shown is the Alto 1.0 SZ3 at £7995 (metallic paint available at £370).
Alto range official fuel consumption figures in mpg [l/100km]: urban from 42.2 [6.7] to 52.3 [5.4], extra urban from 62.8 [4.5] to 74.3 [3.8], combined from 54.3 [5.2] to 66.1 [4.3]. Official CO2 emissions from 145g/km to 125g/km.

†(1) 0% APR typical finance over 3 years is subject to availability for Alto vehicles privately registered between 1st July 2010 and 30th September 2010 from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. Minimum of 50% deposit required. Credit is available to persons aged 18 years or over, subject to status, written quotations available on request. Indemnities may be required. For full details contact your local WJ King dealer. WJ King reserves the right to withdraw or amend this offer without notice or prior warning. The offer is available to customers within the UK (excludes Channel Islands and Isle of Man). Suzuki Finance, part of Black Horse Group, St William House, Tresillian Terrace, Cardiff CF10 5BH. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. All prices and specifications are correct at time of going to press. A £59 inc. VAT admin fee (security checks and fuel) will be added to all vehicle purchases, this includes £20 worth of fuel. Please note, model portrayed is for illustration purposes only. Telephone calls may be recorded for training purposes. E&OE.

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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data – Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Vauxhall Range: urban 16.6 (17.0) – 61.4 (4.6), extra urban 32.8 (8.6) – 88.3 (3.2), combined 24.2 (11.7) – 76.3 (3.7), CO2 Emissions 274 – 98 g/km.

*Saving based on Corsa Special Edition as advertised. All offers and vehicles offered are subject to availability while stocks last. Offers apply to vehicles purchased and registered between 01.07.10 and 31.08.10, terms and conditions apply. Prices shown are including £3000 Vauxhall Swappage discount. The Vauxhall Swappage Scheme applies to customers trading in a qualifying car or commercial vehicle (up to 3.5 tonnes) against the purchase of selected new Vauxhall models when ordered or registered between 01.07.2010 and 31.08.10. At the date of the new vehicle order, the vehicle traded in must be 7 years old or older from date of first registration in the UK. To qualify for the scheme, the owner of the trade vehicle (or their spouse/partner living at the same UK address) must be named as the registered keeper and resident at the UK address shown on the Vehicle Registration Document (V5C) and have owned the vehicle for a minimum of 90 days. The new vehicle must be registered at the same address. The vehicle must have a valid MOT and road tax (or that has expired no earlier than 14 days prior to the new vehicle order date) and be insured at the date of the new vehicle order. The Vauxhall Swappage Scheme cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. All Swappage discounts are inclusive of VAT. Offers available to private customers, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only), on selected WJ King stocks at participating WJ King dealers only. Please note, models portrayed are for illustration purposes only and may not represent actual model. WJ King reserve the right to withdraw any offer at any time. £59 inc. VAT admin fee (security checks and fuel) will be added to all vehicle purchases, this includes £20 worth of fuel. Telephone calls may be recorded for training purposes. E&OE.

DrivingReview

by STEVELOADER

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

VauxhallMeriva

New Meriva is more than a re-varnish job

LIKE that varnish you daub on doors, the original 2003-vintage Vauxhall Meriva did what it said on the tin.

You had to admire how easy it was to use, but once the job was done you didn't give it a second thought. It was one of the most practical yet anonymous small MPVs on the market.

However, that's all changed with the newly launched second generation car (from £15,495).

Wider and longer, it's a lot more stylish with a distinctive stepped rear window line that has the practical effect of giving smaller passengers in the rear a better look out.

And the pièce de résistance is something in common with the latest Rolls-Royce Phantom and Ghost models: rearward opening rear doors for easier access.

Once known as 'suicide doors' this format was banned in the 1960s, though one suspects fashion had something to do with it, too.

But the concept is back now, with modern safety features to prevent kids opening the so-called FlexDoors while the car is moving.

The doors have conventional child locks anyway, but they also lock automatically at speeds above 2mph and a green light in the door handle goes out, indicating that the door cannot be opened.

If a door has not closed properly when the car starts to move, an alarm and dashboard warning go off, but if the car is in an accident, the FlexDoors unlock automatically.

Why go to the trouble? The FlexDoors swing open to an angle of nearly 90 degrees, vastly improving entry and exit anyway, but it is parents with small children who will see most benefit as they pilot the kids in and out and strap them in.

It may also avoid the familiar 'mum and bum' scenario in car parks where, with no hands free while battling to attach junior to his seat,

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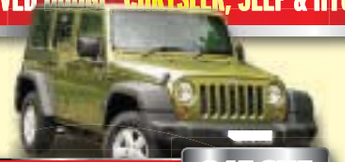

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HYUNDAI from £7,995

CHRYSLER

GF57NBO • 11 07, 20,000 Miles*, **Chrysler Grand Voyager 2.8 CRD Executive XS**, Metallic Magnesium, Grey Leather inter, Body Col Bumps, Heated Seats, Front Fogs, Sat Nav, Cruise Con, PAS, Rear Park Aid, Sunroof, Driver Info Syst, Elec/Heated Door Mirrors, Radio/CD/CD Autochange/DVD, Roof Rails, 10 Speakers **£18,495**

GL08ZYX • 08 08, 22,000 Miles*, **Chrysler Grand Voyager 2.8 CRD Touring**, Metallic Silver, Black Cloth inter, Climate Con, Elec Heat/Folding Door Mirrors, 6 Speakers, Front Elec Winds, PAS, Rear Dual DVD System, Driver Electric Seats, Front Fogs, Radio/CD/MP3/DVD, ISOFIX Anchorage Point, Trip Computer **£19,994**

GF08VOD • 05 08 11,380 Miles*, **Chrysler 300C 3.0 V6 CRD Saloon**, Metallic Black, Black Leather interior Body Col Bumps, Driver Info System, Front Fogs, Memory Driver Electric Seats, Adjustable Steering Climate Control, Heated Seats, Front/Rear Armrest, PAS, Rear Parking Aid Cruise Con, Elec/Heat Door Mirrors, Electric Windows, Radio/CD, 6 Speakers **£ 17,974**

JEEP

GF08LBX • 04 08, 32,880 Miles*, **Jeep Wrangler 2.8 CRD Sport Unlimited 4-Dr**, Mica Green, Black Cloth inter, Alarm, Centre Console, Elec Stability Prog, ABS, Driver Seat Height Adjustment, Front Electric Winds, PAS, Seat - ISOFIX Anchorage Point, Air Bags, Front/Rear Head Restraints, Radio/CD/MP3/DVD, 6 Speakers **£14,974**

DODGE

GK09RVN • 03 09, 10,500 Miles*, **Dodge Caliber 2.0 SXT (CVT)**, Mica Sunburst Orange Pearlcoat, Grey Leather int, Air Con, Front Armrest, Radio/CD, ABS, Driver Seat Height Adjust, Front Fogs, 9 Speakers, Adjustable Steering, Centre Console, Elec Heat/Fold Door Mirrors, Electric Windows, PAS, ISOFIX Anchorage Point **£ 9,974**

HYUNDAI

GL09NXP • 07 09, 15,000 Miles*, **Hyundai i20 1.2 Classic 5-Door Hatchback**, Metallic Black, Black Cloth inter, Air Con, Centre Rear Seat Belt, Elect Stability Prog, Radio/CD/MP3, ABS, Driver Seat Height Adjustment, 4 Speakers, Adjust Steering, Centre Console, Air Bags, Front Elect Winds, PAS, ISOFIX Anchorage Point **£7,995**

GF09DYB • 06 09, 3,650 Miles*, **Hyundai i20 1.4 Comfort 5-Door Hatchback**, Metallic Silver, Black Cloth inter, Air Con, Elec Heat/Folding Door Mirrors, PAS, ISOFIX Anchorage Point, ABS, Elec Winds, Radio/CD/MP3, 6 Speakers, Audio Steering Wheel Mounted Controls, Driver, Air Bags, Trip Computer **£10,495**

EN09FFL • 08 09, 3,500 Miles*, **Hyundai i20 1.4 Style 5-Door Hatchback**, Metallic Black, Diamond/Black Leather interior, Air Con, Elec/Heat/Folding Door Mirrors, PAS, ISOFIX Anchor Point, ABS, Electric Windows, Radio/CD/MP3, 6 Speakers, Audio Steering Wheel Mounted Cons, Air Bags, Adjustable Steering, Trip Computer **£10,974**

GD59DLF • 01 10, 50 Miles*, **Hyundai i800 2.5 CRDi Style (170 PS) 8 seats MPV**, Metallic Silver, Black Leather interior, Air Con, Front/Rear Electric Windows, Radio/CD/MP3, 6 Speakers, Body Col Bumps, Electric Door Mirrors, Tint Glass, Driver Heated Seats, Front Fogs, PAS, Rear Parking Aid, Trip Computer **£19,974**

OTHER MAKES

GF07XHZ • 05 07, 38,500 Miles*, **Suzuki Grand Vitara 1.9 DDiS 5-Door Estate**, Metallic Silver, Black interior, Air Con, Elec/Heat/Fold Door Mirrors, Preparation Towing Equipment, Sunroof, Body Col Bumps, Front Fogs, Radio/CD, Roof Rails, Tinted Glass, PAS, Adjustable Steering, Speakers, Trip Computer **£10,994**

GF07DZW • 04 07, 21,350 Miles*, **Nissan Qashqai 1.5 dCi Acenta 2WD 5-Door Hatchback**, Metallic Silver, Black interior, ABS, Armrests, Radio/CD Autochanger, ISOFIX Anchor Point, Clim Cont, Elec/Heat Door Mirrors, Electric Windows, Telephone Equipment, Cruise Con, Front Fogs, Rear Parking Aid, Trip **£11,994**

GD06JLX • 07 06, 25,250 Miles*, **Kia Sorento 2.5 CRDi XT 5-Door Station Wagon**, Metallic Silver, Grey Leather interior, Climate Con, Heated Seats, Elec/Heat/Folding Door Mirrors, PAS, Rear Armrest, Cruise Con, 8 Speakers, Front Fogs, Radio/CD Autochanger/MP3, Roof Rails, Driver Elec Seats, Electric Driver Seat Height Adjustment Glass Tilt/Slide Electric Sunroof, Adjustable Steering, Sat Nav **£ 13,774**

*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all the above information, including mileage and specification. However, as errors do occur, please do not rely entirely on this information, but check with your Dealer about items which may effect your decision to purchase.

HYUNDAI CHRYSLER DODGE Jeep THERE'S ONLY ONE

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mummy gives the rear door a nudge with her derriere and leaves a mark on the neighbouring car.

With both front and rear door open on one side – the fronts open at a similar angle to the FlexDoors – it is easier to corral and manage the children in and out of the car, too.

Vauxhall has also gone 'FlexCrazy' lately, rethinking how interiors and storage work; the latest Astra impressed, so it's hardly surprising that its MPV sister far exceeds that thanks to the 'monocab' MPV design and those doors.

There are easy fold-down rear seats, which can also be moved to create more boot, leg or shoulder room and the centre console compartment must be one of the biggest and most versatile on the market – you could probably get a baby in there except that you'd be in trouble with social services.

Engine line-up includes new generation small capacity turbocharged petrol engines. The efficient fuel consumption – from an average mpg in the mid-40s – and extra power of these boosted units renders the normally aspirated 1.4 entry unit almost surplus to requirements.

However, even the racier, cleaner and meaner petrol engines may have a job outselling the diesels, including a 1.3-litre capable of averaging nearly 60mpg and a miserly ecoFLEX variant of this due later in 2010.

Neverthless, our 120PS (118bhp) output 1.4-litre turbocharged petrol test car highlighted how petrol is charging back aided by the lightness and smoothness of the powereplant versus an equivalent diesel.

It made it easy to forget that you were driving an MPV and the Astra-derived chassis felt taut and responsive enough to please on rare occasions when a car like this is not crammed with kids.

The cabin is predictably airy and the Meriva would be easy to live with and even rather staylish – I would be surprised if it didn't become more numerous as well as more memorable than its predecessor.

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DrivingPortfolio

VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 TURBO 120PS SE £18,145

Driving appeal (OUT OF FIVE)	★★★★
Image	★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★
Running costs	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★
How green?	★★★★
Road tax	£125/year
Best rival	Citroën C3 Picasso

TheVerdict

DON'T LIKE: the slightly cheap feel of some cabin materials

NOT SURE: Mazda can yet challenge Volkswagen in this quality executive/mainstream sector

REALLY LIKE: pitch as a well-priced model wearing a badge with a sporty yet eco-friendly image

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Official Government Test Environmental Data – Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): New Meriva: urban 32.1 (8.8) – 47.9 (5.9), extra-urban 52.3 (5.4) – 65.7 (4.3), combined 42.2 (6.7) – 57.6 (4.9), CO_2 Emissions 168 – 129 g/km.

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Official fuel consumption for the Golf BlueMotion in mpg (litres/100km): urban 60.1 (4.7); extra urban 83.1 (3.4); combined 74.3 (3.3). CO_2 emissions 99g/km.

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SAAB 9-3 1.9TiD Vector Sport , 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Diesel, 2006 56 Reg , 112,000 miles, Metallic grey. Heated door mirrors, Folding rear seats, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Cruise control, Steering wheel rake adjustment, Front electric windows, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, ABS, Sports seats, Front fog lights, Front head restraints, Passenger airbag, Reverse parking aid, Remote central locking, Drivers airbag, Anti theft system, Adjustable steering column/wheel, Child locks, Leather seat trim, Service indicator, Park distance control, Locking wheel nuts, Trip computer, Navigation system, Multi function steering wheel, Space saver spare wheel, Electric mirrors, Alarm, Body coloured bumpers, Front armrest, Rear armrest, PAS, Air conditioning, CD, Central locking, Climate Control, Colour coding - Body, Foglights, Full Service History. Insurance Group:12, Fully intergrated Navigation system, Mobile phone Bluetooth connection. Buisness Pack. 6 Speed gearbox,.....**£6,995**

SAAB 9-3 1.8T Linear Sport , 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol, 2005 05 Reg , 63,277 miles, Metallic Grey, 2 Owners. Heated door mirrors, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Cruise control, Front electric windows, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, Multi function steering wheel, Audio remote control, ABS, Cloth seat trim, Front head restraints, Front fog lights, Passenger airbag, Reverse parking aid, Remote central locking, Height adjustable drivers seat, Drivers airbag, Service indicator, Cloth upholstery, Trip computer, Alarm, Body coloured bumpers, Front armrest, Part Service History, Rear armrest, PAS, Air conditioning, Central locking, Climate Control, Computer, Park distance control, Power assisted steering, Remote locking. Insurance Group:12, ...**£6,195**

SAAB 9-3 1.9TiD Linear , 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Diesel, 2006 06 Reg , 70,763 miles, Metallic BLUE, MOT-04-2011, 2 Owners. ABS, Air conditioning, Heated door mirrors, Folding rear seats, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Steering wheel reach adjustment, 3x3 point rear seat belts, Steering wheel rake adjustment, Alloy wheels, Multi function steering wheel, Full Service History, Immobiliser, Cloth upholstery, Side airbags, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, Audio remote control, Cloth seat trim, Isofix child seat anchor points, Front head restraints, Passenger airbag, Remote central locking, Drivers airbag, Service indicator, Space saver spare wheel, Alarm, Front armrest, Rear armrest, Traction control, Body coloured bumpers, PAS, Trip computer, Height adjustable drivers seat, Anti theft system, Child locks. Insurance Group:12, Bluetooth phone connection.....**£6,295**

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Motability

Vehicles shown are Spark 1.2 LT at £10,145 with metallic paint at an extra cost of £365, Cruze 1.8 LT at £15,145 with metallic paint at an extra cost of £400. Available at participating Retailers only. Not in conjunction with any other offer. Offer available on all retail registrations from 9th July 2010 to 5th October 2010 apart from all Matiz models. Certain Retail stock does not qualify. 5 year warranty up to 100,000 miles, expires whichever occurs first. This offer includes Chevrolet's standard Customer Care Commitment for a 2 year unlimited mileage manufacturer's warranty, and third year manufacturer's warranty with a 60,000 miles limitation. The warranty excludes wear and tear and serviceable items and the vehicle has to be serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's servicing schedule. 5 years/50,000 miles servicing package, expires whichever occurs first. Beyond 50,000 miles the vehicle must be serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's servicing schedule to continue the 5 year warranty. MOT Test Warranty cover does not include the cost of the MOT test fee. MOT Test Warranty covers the MOTs carried out at year 3, 4 and 5 and has a limit of 100,000 miles. The MOT Test Warranty excludes accident damage, tyres, glass and bodywork and has a claim limit of £750 per MOT. Annual vehicle health checks have no mileage limitations. Roadside Assistance has no mileage limit but does not cover certain self-induced incidents. Terms and conditions apply please visit www.5yearpromise.co.uk or contact your nearest Retailer for details. Prices correct at time of press. Calls may be recorded and monitored for training purposes. (Chev97392)

Official Government Environmental Data. Fuel Consumption Figures MPG (Litres/100 km). Spark 1.2 LT: Urban 42.8 (6.6), Extra Urban 67.3 (4.2), Combined 55.4 (5.1), CO_2 Emissions 119 g/km. Cruze 1.8 LT: Urban 30.4 (9.3), Extra Urban 53.3 (5.3), Combined 41.5 (6.8), CO_2 Emissions 159 g/km

ALFA ROMEO

147, T-spark, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels cruise control immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 42700 miles, £5800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

147, T-spark, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels cruise control immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 42700 miles, £5800, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

147, T-spark, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels cruise control immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 42700 miles, £5800, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

156, JTD 16v Multijet Lusso, 2005, metallic stromboli grey, 39450 miles, £5562, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

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159, JTDM, 2008, abs brakes alloy wheels cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering trip computer isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black, 32782 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

159, 1.9 JTDM 16v, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags traction control remote central locking, over 5000 vehicles in group s, 27951 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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A2, 1.4 SE, 2001, abs brakes alloy wheels electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking, silver, 70059 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

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A3, 2.0 TDi 170 QUATTRO, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking, meteor grey, 23009 miles, £15000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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BERLINGO, Multispace Forte 16v, 7849079, power steering, abs, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, electric front windows, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, twin air bags, radio cassette, blue, 11800 miles, £6495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, Multispace Forte 16v, 7901079, power steering, abs, electric front windows, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, radio cassette, adjustable steering column, cloth upholstery, twin air bags, blue, 25900 miles, £5995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, Multispace Forte 16v, 7978079, power steering, central locking, abs, radio cassette, twin air bags, adjustable steering column, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, cloth upholstery, blue, 14000 miles, £4995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6 HDI 600LX With Side Loading Door, km57uhc, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, abs, air bag, electric windows, cd player, radio, side load door, white, 33000 miles, £4495, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

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BERLINGO, Jiffy Hot & Cold Catering Truck, fn04zvv, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, power steering, air bag, electric windows, electric mirrors, radio cassette, refrigerated display, heated display, hand wash facilities. white, 0 miles, £8995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 600 LX HDi Refrigerated Chiller Freezer, kr07xoy, side load door, cd player, electric windows, electric mirrors, immobiliser, remote central locking, grp lined. gah equipment. electric standby available if required. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 27000 miles, £7595, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6HDI Refrigerated Chiller Freezer, ld59ees, satellite navigation, power steering, remote central locking, immobiliser, electric mirrors, electric windows, abs, air bag, bluetooth, cd player, brand new. immediate delivery. grp lined. gah equipment. electric standby available if required. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 1 miles, £11595, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 625 LX HDi Refrigerated Chiller Freezer, mv58zhn, dual passenger seat, side load door, cd player, abs, air bag, electric windows, electric mirrors, power steering, remote central locking, immobiliser, grp lined. hubbard fridge. electric stanby. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 12000 miles, £9995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6 MULTISPACE DESIRE, 2007, abs brakes cd player electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, blue, 14986 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6 DESIRE, 2007, abs brakes cd player electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint tonneau cover twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, blue, 17398 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, HDI VTR, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, gold metallic, 4000 miles, £10495, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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BERLINGO, 1.6 DESIRE, 2007, abs brakes cd player electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint tonneau cover twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, blue, 17398 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

DAIHATSU

MATERIA, 16v 5dr, fe09tsu, abs, air bag, side air bags, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, power steering, air conditioning, electric windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, front fog lamps, adjustable steering column, automatic electric windows, radio, child locks, folding rear seats, head restraints, cloth upholstery, isofix, air conditioning, metallic paintwork, multiple airbags, 15'' alloy wheels, space saver spare wheel, tachometer, digital clock,body colour side skirt, storage pockets front doors, sun visors with mirrors, remote fuel flap release, body colour tailgate handle, internal chrome door handles, body colour door handles, height adjustable driver's seat, glovebox, aerial, black window surrounds, maroon, 1900 miles, £9995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

SIRION, SE 5dr, yt08nng, abs, air bag, side air bags, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, power steering, air conditioning, electric windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, parking sensor, adjustable steering column, rear headrests, automatic electric windows, radio, child locks, cloth upholstery, isofix, air conditioning, 15'' alloys, laminated windscreen, tachometer, digital clock, energy absorbing steering column, air recirculation system, side window demist vents, fully trimmed load compartment, fully carpeted passenger compartment, dipping rear view mirror, body colour door handles, key left in ignition audible warning, 3 spoke steering wheel, high level third brake light, front seatbelt pretensioners with force limiters, chrome interior door handles, front map lights, front door pockets, side impact protection beams, adjustable face level ventilation, speedometer, trip odometer, internal fuel flap release, rear seats fold flat, roof aerial, removable load compartment cover, driver sunvisor with mirror, height adjustable headlamps, rear speakers, boot light, 'lights on' warning buzzer, interior courtesy light, 4 speed fan, fuel gauge, front armrest + cupholder, space saver spare wheel, heated rear window, height adjustable front seatbelts, electric folding door mirrors, 14'' alloy wheels, black window surrounds, 3 rear 3 point seatbelts, 60/40 split fold rear seat back, white front indicator lenses, front mudguards, driver's seat height adjustment, rigid safety cell/front and rear crumple zones, seatbelt warning lamp and buzzer, 2 front speakers, body colour rear bumper, height adjustable front headrests, anti-burst locks, passenger seat back pocket, rear mudguards, 2 speed wipers with intermittent wash, twin rear cupholders, twin front cupholders, body colour front sports bumper, auxiliary socket for external device, full impact safety system, passenger grip handles, storage trays, air blending and ventilation system, red rear indicator lenses, blue, 13000 miles, £7995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

FORD

FIESTA, 5, lx07kfp, insurance group 7 abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering remote central locking trip computer, tango red, 22000 miles, £6000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, lx07kfu, insurance group 5 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser leather seats passenger airbag power steering remote central locking trip computer, tango red, 20000 miles, £6000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 3, eu02fyv, insurance group 6 alloy wheels body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser power steering radio/cassette sunroof trip computer 3 owners service history, aquafrost green, 35000 miles, £2783, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, ea02vpz, insurance group 6 alloy wheels body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser power steering radio/cd trip computer 2 owners, ink blue, 57000 miles, £2483, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, kd07dtv, insurance group 7 abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking trip computer, amethyst, 2000 miles, £6000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, ce56erk, insurance group 5 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser leather seats passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking trip computer 1 owner history, panther black, 16000 miles, £6000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, gf58gvp, insurance group 4 abs alarm alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers climate control cruise control drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking steering wheel service history, panther black, 24000 miles, £9483, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 3, av08uas, insurance group 5 abs air conditioning alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking trip computer 1 owner service history technology pack, panther black, 10000 miles, £7000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, gn52lzp, insurance group 3 audio remote control body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking steering wheel rake adjustment history, moondust silver, 62000 miles, £3483, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 3, ap58axn, insurance group 4 abs air conditioning audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking steering wheel rake adjustment steering wheel reach adjustment 1 owner service history, moondust silver, 9000 miles, £8000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, ln56xav, insurance group 3 abs body coloured bumpers drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering remote central locking 2 owners history, amethyst, 21000 miles, £5283, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 3, yg57sju, insurance group 7 abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering remote central locking trip computer, ocean blue, 13000 miles, £6000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, gk08wev, insurance group 4 abs air conditioning alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking trip computer 1 owner service history, ocean blue, 22000 miles, £6483, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, ml51skf, insurance group 6 alloy wheels body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser power steering radio/cassette sunroof trip computer service history, moondust silver, 36000 miles, £2683, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, gf05ybx, insurance group 3 abs air conditioning alloy wheels body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer 1 owner, moondust, 36000 miles, £5000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 3, yb08zyd, insurance group 5 abs air conditioning alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front , 11000 miles, £6483, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, ea02vsx, insurance group 7 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking steering wheel rake adjustment 2 owners service history, neptune green, 52000 miles, £3683, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, ce57veh, insurance group 4 abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking 1 owner service history, tango red, 15000 miles, £6483, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Titanium, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tinted glass trip computer curtain airbags remote central locking auto headlights and wipers multi functional tunepoint (i-pod and mp3 connection) quickclear windscreen remote audio controls dab radio, avalon, 10143 miles, £14080, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 Zetec S TDCi, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid sports seats tinted glass trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, sea grey, 3878 miles, £14500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec TDCi, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, ocean blue, 12646 miles, £11500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Econetic TDCi, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted bluetooth car kit cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, ocean blue, 2328 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Ghia Estate, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats tinted glass trip computer curtain airbags remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, green, 50000 miles, £6080, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Ghia (115), 2008, non standard colour, 48200 miles, £6850, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 Zetec TDCi, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog kelp green, 20901 miles, £10500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history moondust silver, 13269 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 Zetec S TDCi, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid tinted glass trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, sea grey, 10677 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Zetec, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats tinted glass trip computer curtain airbags remote central locking multi functional tunepoint (i-pod and mp3 connection) quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, moondust silver, 8887 miles, £13080, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.0 Zetec S, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering sports seats tinted glass trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, panther black, 7924 miles, £13000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Studio TDCi, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser power steering twin airbags, ocean blue, 27639 miles, £7500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec TDCi, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, ocean blue, 18095 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.0 Titanium, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, moondust silver, 2200 miles, £12500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

Focus, 1.6 Zetec, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full controls, avalon grey, 15498 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS 1.6 Zetec, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, ocean blue, 15908 miles, £9500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Style, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, moondust silver, 11472 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.5 ST-2, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multi cd player multiple airbags power steering sports seats traction control trip computer remote central locking multi functional tunepoint (i-pod and mp3 connection) quickclear windscreen remote audio controls dab radio, electric orange, 6092 miles, £17000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec TDCi, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, vision blue, 7081 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 HR-

HONDA

V, VTEC 5dr, 7904079, air conditioning, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, rear spoiler, cd player, radio, abs, adjustable steering column, powered folding mirrors, cloth upholstery, alloy wheels, 4x4, blue, 21000 miles, £6495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

JAZZ, Dsi SE 5dr, 129314, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, air conditioning, electric front windows, electric windows, brake assist, automatic electric windows, mp3 player, head restraints, locking wheel nuts, isofix, central locking, air conditioning, power steering, cd player, colour coded body, alloy wheels, integrated audio unit, rds cd/tuner, pollen filter, passenger seat back pocket, remote keyless entry, rear speakers, front speakers, tilt adjustable steering wheel, boot lamp, body colour bumpers, side impact blue, 11000 miles, £8995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

JAZZ, Dsi SE 5dr, 130314, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, air conditioning, electric front windows, electric windows, brake assist, automatic electric windows, mp3 player, head restraints, locking wheel nuts, isofix, central locking, air conditioning, 15'' alloys, 15'' alloy wheels, elec heated + adjust door mirrors, pas, tonneau cover, headlight height adjustment, height adjustable front seatbelts, roof mounted aerial, visible vehicle identification number, space saver spare wheel, tachometer, digital clock, 5 three point seatbelts, low fuel level warning light, glovebox, side impact protection beams, body colour bumpers, boot lamp, tilt adjustable steering wheel, front speakers, rear speakers, remote keyless entry, passenger seat back pocket, pollen filter, rds cd/tuner, integrated audio unit, superlocking, front seat walk-in device, cloth trim, front cupholders, remote controls for audio system, luggage tie-down hooks, body colour mirrors and door handles, driver's seat height adjustment, fuel consumption indicator, digital odometer, audible lights on warning, driver/passenger vanity mirrors with covers, front seatbelt pretensioner, third high level brake light, rear screen wiper fixed speed, door mirror integrated indicators, adjustable dashboard illumination, rear speaker kit, front interior welcome light, magic seat flexibility system, magic lever (on shoulder of front seat), white dashboard illumination, digital selected gear indicator, blue, 7000 miles, £10995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

JAZZ, Dsi SE 5dr, gl56lzv, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, air conditioning, electric front windows, electric windows, brake assist, automatic electric windows, mp3 player, head restraints, locking wheel nuts, isofix, central locking, air conditioning, 15'' alloys, pas, roof mounted aerial, visible vehicle identification number, tachometer, low fuel level warning light, side impact protection beams, body colour bumpers, remote keyless entry, pollen filter, rds cd/tuner, superlocking, front seat walk-in device, driver/passenger vanity mirrors with covers, digital odometer, integrated audio unit, glovebox, digital clock, height adjustable front seatbelts, tonneau cover, elec heated + adjust door mirrors, 15'' alloy wheels, magic lever (on shoulder of front seat), white dashboard illumination, digital selected gear indicator, front seatbelt pretensioner, audible lights on warning, third high level brake light, fuel consumption indicator, driver's seat height adjustment, three point seatbelts, adjustable dashboard illumination, space saver spare wheel, headlight height adjustment, rear speaker kit, front interior welcome light, magic seat flexibility system, blue, 18000 miles, £8495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

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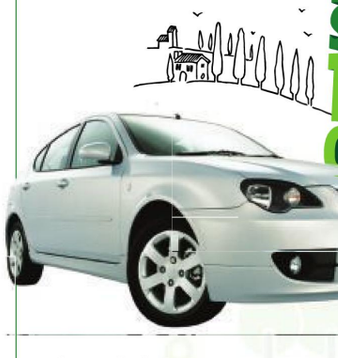

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

CAUTIOUS optimism is an over used phrase when applied to the business sector in these troubled times.

Of course, we all want to hope for the best, to assume recovery is just around the corner.

This week's section highlights the dilemma we all face. A construction expert on very real concerns for the sector, off-set against optimism for the future. And while manufacturing orders are up, confidence remains low. We must not lose faith in all of our abilities to deliver future success.

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It's time to turn the tide

KENT'S seaside towns are not just about rock and candy floss – they're great places to do business too, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

That's the message from one of the county's new MPs who has already won a top level meeting with a Government minister to drive home the attractions seaside areas offer to business and tourism.

Laura Sandys, the Tory MP for South Thanet, wants to see a marine energy park established and has won a meeting with Mark Prisk, the minister for business, innovation and skills.

She said: "I want to ensure ministers across all departments understand the particular challenges facing seaside towns.

"While our constituencies might be only a few miles from prosperous parts of the country, many seaside towns face very different challenges and often have a much lower standard of living. That difference can be seen in quite startling contrast a mere 10 miles inland.

Task force

"We see much higher levels of deprivation, incapacity benefit and joblessness in seaside towns. In some instances, we also have a high proportion of jobs in the public sector.

"I am calling for a task force to ensure our particular challenges are addressed and understood, with a focus on job creation and support for business start-ups.

"We need to rebalance our economy. This is particularly important in deprived coastal areas. Thanet, for example, has a huge opportunity to benefit from small-sector tourism businesses, jobs in the 'green economy' and small start-ups.

"I want our voice heard and interests served, and I welcome the minister's enthusiasm to meet with us." She said it was not all about tourism, although that is also crucial to towns like Margate and Broadstairs. Ms Sandys said: "Seaside towns have been at the end of the line for years. They have high numbers unable to work, plus poor housing stock. It's time this deterioration was halted. Large companies need to move into the area and boost the workforce.

"We need Government to understand there are special characteristics to seaside towns and to help make them attractive for firms to set up.

"The South East is known as a prosperous area, but its seaside towns are not. Thanet doesn't match the profile of the South East. The isle would benefit from a strong focus on marine energy and the green economy. Thanet has the largest wind farm in the world, making this an ideal area to establish a marine energy park, boosting business and creating jobs. We also want major national tourism drives to promote what our seaside towns have to offer. We want to see the Kent seaside industry great again."

Answering a parliamentary question from Ms Sandys, Mr Prisk said: "I would be more than happy to meet my honourable friend and her colleagues. It is important to recognise some of the special problems in particular locations, and start-ups are crucial in that respect."

ISLE OF BLIGHT: South Thanet MP Laura Sandys, inset, wants a two-pronged business and tourism boost for Thanet's seaside towns, including Ramsgate (above), to tackle deprivation

No mystery to safari sales boost

A MYSTERY-SHOPPING company has helped Port Lympne Wild Animal Park improve take up of one of its main attractions by 10 per cent.

Shopper Anonymous Kent employed 20 mystery customers including parents, grandparents and single visitors to go to Port Lympne under cover and report on their experiences.

MD Graham Seymour said: "Our shoppers not only got to have a great day out but were trained to look at a whole range of factors.

"These included everything from researching on the web and their experience at the ticket office, through to the food and customer service, but also smaller things that can make all the difference to a day out, such as signs, litter bins and cleanliness of the toilets.

"Over the course of a year our mystery shoppers reported back on their experiences and patterns soon emerged, with certain factors repeatedly cited as not customer-friendly.

"We were able to report these to Port Lympne and work with them to make changes that improved the customer experience."

As a result of the feedback a range of changes were instituted – ranging from asking staff to wear name badges to customer service training.

One of the most significant changes was in the promotion of the African Experience, a four-wheel-drive 'safari' to see park wildlife including zebra, giraffe and wildebeest.

As a result of feedback, the location of the ticket office for the safari was changed, contributing to a 10 per cent rise in sales. Other feedback included visitors preferred it when African Safari drivers switched off the pre-recorded commentary and introduced it live. Staff are now being trained to do that more often. Port Lympne also made changes to signs and ensured feeding times and keeper talks took place at the advertised times.

Port Lympne retail manager Gary Gould said: "The advice received from Shopper Anonymous, tied with other marketing campaigns, saw almost a 10 per cent rise in uptake of the African Experience. Their reports made a big impact, helping reinforce our culture of excellence in customer service. We also put all retail and safari staff through customer service training, ensuring they are fully equipped to give the very best experience to customers. We will continue to use mystery shopper reports to make sure we maintain our standards across the board."

Picture: CHARLOTTE JONES

GREAT APES: Graham Seymour of Shopper Anonymous Kent at the Port Lympne gorilla enclosure

BUSINESS WEEK

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Comment

DESPITE its important place in the county's economic make-up, farming can sometimes feel like the forgotten industry. We don't have food shortages worthy of the name in this country, and our farmers don't follow in the footsteps of their French counterparts by dragging sheep carcasses to Westminster, or blocking motorways with tractors.

Which makes the Kent public's apparent enthusiasm to celebrate farming at the County Show all the more gratifying.

Last weekend's Kent County Show proved to be a resounding success on many fronts. Firstly, it shifted its focus back onto land management – allowing agriculture to once again take centre stage.

Secondly, and most crucially, it appears to have re-engaged with the general public. After the event, the organisers were able to trumpet a halt in the decline of visitor numbers to the three-day event.

An increase of more than 4,000 visitors through the gates compared with last year is no mean feat in these economically-squeezed times and to be congratulated. Reversing a five-year trend of falling attendance should also be celebrated.

Yet this year's 85,000 visitors is still some way short of 2005's 105,000 punters. Just like crops, however, the show is dependent on good weather to harvest the biggest audience.

Hopefully, next year will confirm a new trend of increasing gate receipts.

The new Why Farming Matters marquee took centre stage at the showground's main entrance, and the grand parade of livestock made a welcome and popular return.

Farming has been forced to adapt to changing conditions as much as any industry. Kent is now home to wine producers, for example, and this week in the news section you can read about how fruit producers are finding the challenge of climate change opening new doors.

And next time you drive past a herd of cattle or a swaying field of wheat, don't forget the human cost of farming.

While the industry employs just 1.5 per cent of the nation's workforce, it was responsible for almost a quarter of work-related deaths in 2009-10 nationwide.

The Health and Safety Executive has launched a new safety campaign (see story on this page) to remind rural workers of the danger inherent in their jobs – don't let it fall on deaf ears.

STEVE LOADER, BUSINESS EDITOR

Safety drive to cut the grim harvest

FARMERS have been given a stark reminder of the dangers of the job after the latest work fatality statistics reveal a high number of deaths in agriculture.

The new figures make for grim reading, with the farming industry responsible for almost a quarter of work-related deaths in 2009-10 nationwide.

This is despite only 1.5 per cent of the population working in the sector.

While other industries are making progress in safety, the number of people being hurt or killed on farms – for example, hit by tractors or crushed by machinery – remains high.

Complacent

Mike Walters, an inspector at the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) in Ashford, said although the number was not higher in Kent than elsewhere, farmers should not become complacent, especially with harvest upon them.

"Farmers make up a small part of the workforce, but the high number of deaths is horrendous," he said.

"It averages almost one person a week across Great Britain. Farmers really do need to remember the dangers and not become complacent."

He added that the upcoming harvest would add to the risks, with heavy machinery being used.

SAFELY GATHERED IN: Dangers highlighted as harvest time approaches

"Farmers will bring the combine harvesters out – they can be an added risk along with the problems with farm vehicles like tractors and trailers. Workers can become complacent with the equipment they are using. Sometimes they don't notice machinery is old and in need of replacement or repair."

But Mr Walters said the high number is also likely to be down to farmers rushing their work.

"Trying to get the crops in before it rains can lead to accidents," he said.

He has now called for farmers in Kent to join the HSE's Make The Promise, Come Home Safe campaign. Tragic stories of farm workers killed or injured at work are being used as part of the initiative to make others aware of the need for safety and welfare for themselves and their workers. Peter Kendall, president of the National Farmers' Union, said the organisation noted the latest statistics with "considerable sadness".

He added: "In the coming months we will establish an industry coalition with our partners and through a concerted effort will look to spread the health and safety message.

"Farmers, growers and their staff will be working long hours this summer, often alone.

"We've already started to remind our members to take care, but as harvest gets under way we will step this up and continue to support the HSE efforts to minimise farm deaths."

To join the Make The Promise, Come Home Safe campaign, go to www.hse.gov.uk/makethepromise.

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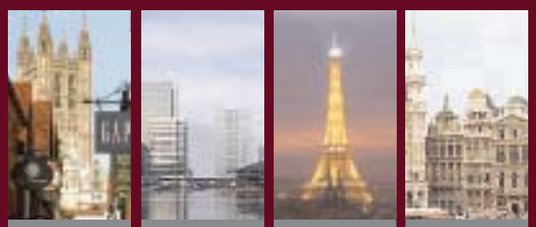

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Olympic Park tour golden opportunity

KENT members of the Institute of Directors (IoD) have enjoyed a behind-the-scenes tour of the construction site for the 2012 London Games.

Thirty members took a guided tour of the east London site, where at any one time more than 3,000 companies are working on the Olympic Park, which employs nearly 9,000 workers. The visit was hosted by Kent IoD member Mike Higgins, who is commercial manager with rail logistics specialist DB Schenker, based in Canterbury, and has been assigned to the Olympic Park project to promote sustainable delivery, using rail rather than road wherever possible. He said: "Over the past two years we have moved over two million tonnes of materials by rail, taking 200,000 lorry movements off London's roads."

Materials have been brought from across the nation, including plasterboard from Sittingbourne for the media centre.

To view, search 'business' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Business Week editor Steve Loader and his team report from around the county

BUSINESS WEEK

online: www.businessforkent.co.uk

A KENT Euro MP has called on SMEs in the South East to "look to Europe" for business opportunities after a report showed a positive link between exports and SME performance.

Liberal Democrat Sharon Bowles was commenting on a European Commission study in which 'internationalised' firms reported employment growth of seven per cent, while those focused on local markets grew by only one per cent. The study also found that the percentage of UK SMEs exporting was below the EU average of 25 per cent.

Ms Bowles said: "The single market offers South East businesses unrestricted access to almost 450 million customers. With so many small firms struggling, this represents a good opportunity to grow. The single market is worth £200bn to UK businesses and it is time the South East took its fair share of this."

THE new team at the helm of Kent's largest private training company say they are determined not to let a nervous economy halt plans for major growth.

The new management partnership of Pitman Training Kent is Andrew Kemp and David Amos. They plan to double the number of centres and develop new marketing strategies. Mr Amos said: "One of the key things we are doing is making sure the training we provide is what employers are actually looking for locally.

"For instance, we know there is a real need for book-keepers in Kent, so have made sure the most up-to-date training is available at our centres."

More than 100 courses are offered in Gravesend, Chatham, Maidstone, Tunbridge Wells, Bromley and Dartford.

SHOE manufacturer Hotter Comfort Concept opens a new store in Canterbury this weekend, creating 10 jobs.

The UK's biggest shoe maker has expanded in recent years from selling shoes online and now has nine stores, including High Street, Bromley. Sales director Clive Leverett said: "We're really excited to have a presence in Canterbury, in The Parade section of the high street."

MORE than 500 people applied for the 30 jobs on offer at the soon-to-be opened 10,000 sq ft Staples store in Tunbridge Wells.

General manager Nick Stephens interviewed 168 people and has now found "a really good team" to take the business forward. He said: "The standard was so high we have taken on more full-time staff than originally planned."

The new store opens on Saturday, July 31, on the redeveloped Fountains Retail Park, Dowding Way, off Longfield Road.

SIX in 10 employers in the South East (58 per cent) argue that work-related education and training will play a vital role in the UK's economic recovery, according to The Skills Economy – the new framework for prosperity, a report from vocational education organisation, City & Guilds.

The survey of more than 1,200 employers reveals businesses see skills as a top priority for supporting the country's future prosperity.

More than eight in 10 (85 per cent) of employers in the South East view vocationally trained staff as vital to the success of their business, and nearly two thirds (60 per cent) claim vocational education delivers the practical skills essential for today's dynamic economy.

Business managers argue practical work experience is more valuable than academic study, with specialist industry skills offering immediate advantages in the workplace over a university education.

Long-awaited boost to the order books

By **JAMES BENJAMIN**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

SOUTH East businesses have reported increased manufacturing orders in the last three months – the first time since early 2008.

The South East Regional Intelligence Snapshot, prepared by the South East England Development Agency (Seeda), has shown manufacturing throughout the region is steadily growing.

In addition, 41 per cent of manufacturing firms in the South East and London expect an increase in total orders over the next three months, which is more than any other part of the UK.

Cooper Crouse-Hinds UK, a Sheerness-based company, has benefited directly from this increased activity and Nigel Brown, manufacturing manager at the company, said: "We have experienced high growth in the last few months, with a shift that has seen greater demand for our value added products.

"We believe we will see this pattern continue with a period of significant growth expected in 2011. Interestingly, at the moment, our prices are competitive with equivalent products sourced in China which is a key reason in this period of growth."

According to Cambridge Econometrics, the forecasted manufacturing output growth for Kent is predicted to be 1.6 per cent in 2010 rising to 2.1 per cent in 2011.

This, said Seeda, combined with the Regional Intelligence Snapshot, represents the South East's strongest manufacturing performance in two years.

Paul Lovejoy, executive director for strategy at Seeda, said: "The reports show that growth is slow, but steady.

"Continued increases in business costs could slow the revival for manufacturing companies, however forecasts look positive. What is encouraging is that the South East is home to cutting-edge industries which are central to economic growth and future success."

Prominent industries including aerospace, motor sport, marine, environmental technology and healthcare are based in the South East, with over 24 per cent of the 18,000 SMEs in this category.

KENT County Cricket Club has appointed Pat Mellsop as commercial director. He will be responsible for the club's sales, commercial and marketing activities.

Mr Mellsop is a former head of marketing at Waikato Rugby Union and the Chiefs Super 14 franchise in New Zealand.

Kent chief executive Jamie Clifford said: "Pat emerged from an extremely strong field of candidates and has a great deal of experience and this will be invaluable to us.

"We take our commercial activities seriously and this appointment is a further sign of that."

Mr Mellsop said: "I'm pleased to be joining Kent and see it as an exciting challenge.

"Having spent 12 years with Waikato I'm ready for a career change and believe Kent County Cricket Club will provide me with the challenge I am looking for."

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CLEAN MACHINE: Naz Cesur with replica Spitfire

Spit and polish

CONTRACTOR Naz Cesur will clean "anything that stands still long enough," but even he was a bit surprised by a recent request.

His company, Myhome Cleaning Services, was asked to spruce up two replica Battle of Britain fighters ready for the 70th anniversary Memorial Day celebrations at Capel-le-Ferne, near Folkestone. The planes, a Hurricane and Spitfire, stand inside the entrance to the national memorial site cared for by the Battle of Britain Memorial Trust. Cadets from 99 Squadron Air Training Corps had already washed the planes down, but with thousands of visitors expected for the parade and memorial service the trust brought in the professionals to make sure the planes looked their very best.

"It was the first time I have been asked to clean anything quite as special," said Naz. "We had the planes sparkling for the ceremony and donated our time to the trust as our thank you to the veterans who protected this country all those years ago."

Memorial Day on Sunday, July 11, was attended by HRH Prince Michael of Kent and attracted the largest crowd ever seen for the annual event.

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BUSINESS WEEK

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Back to County Show roots

NICK AMES

BUSINESSES with an eye to the countryside took stands at this year's Kent County Show and highlighted how a traditional way of life can look to the future, writes **NICK AMES**.

Thousands attended the event at Detling and while farm animals, implements and machinery formed the bulk of the attractions, companies which took part also reported keen interest in what they had to offer. Here we feature just some of the rural entrepreneurs who were at the 2010 County Show.

As well as displays of prime livestock and farming technology, new attractions included a food court and the increasingly popular EcoVillage – which highlighted sustainable technology – was one of the most popular parts of the site.

Lucy Hegarty, trade stand coordinator, said: "Visitors were able to see a whole range of exhibitions, from baby chicks through to the latest tractors."

Some of the trade stands were linked to the main theme of the event – machinery and food and drink produced locally. Others were a little more obscure – a company producing toy crossbows, or offering a firing range.

But they ensured the County Show had something for all tastes, even an original funfair with an ancient helter-skelter providing excellent views of the site from its summit.

Vicky Whitlock, who organised the EcoVillage, said: "While a lot of farmers wouldn't necessarily call themselves green, they do understand how the land needs to be used properly and protected. Businesses which want to make the best of the land are a natural ally for farmers and that is a link we wish to grow."

In the County Show's EcoVillage, KOS Media – publisher of this newspaper – had a stall that proved popular with visitors.

Marketing director Richard Purvis said: "The Kent countryside, as well as being a valuable resource, is one of the most beautiful parts of England and should be appreciated."

All County Show pictures: PHIL HOUGHTON

INTO AFRICA: Simon Stevenson

Artist's big tea break

THE stain left by a cup of tea provided a business inspiration for artist Simon Stevenson, who paints the landscapes and wildlife of Africa.

He took out a stand at the Kent County Show to reach people with an interest in the natural world with his work called A Brush With Africa.

"And I'm most likely the only person here who paints in tea," he said. "I actually use PG Tips as my material. It all started when I left a cup of tea on a piece of paper and saw the colours it left.

"I thought, 'Wow, that looks like Africa'."

Mr Stevenson has travelled extensively in Africa, especially Tanzania, and has an in-depth knowledge of its flora and fauna.

"I initially have an image in my mind before it ever gets worked on," he said. "I'll then study the idea with pictures and other reference work before laying it down."

GLASS ACT: Vikki Wright and Chantel Williams

Biddenden's boost

THE increasing popularity of cider – especially among the young – has seen a boost for one of the county's most famous drinks.

Biddenden Cider is sold in pubs, bars, hotels, off-licences and supermarkets across Kent and beyond. But until recently the beverage had a decidedly rustic air. And its increasing appeal is – ironically – in part due to one of the other major brands. Magners cider has taken off with a high-profile advertising campaign aimed primarily at the lager market.

It is even served in bottles similar to popular beer brands and has been branded as 'the summer drink' served over ice in a tall glass. Vikki Wright was at the Biddenden Cider stand at the County Show.

"It's true the drink is more popular among young people than before and that surge can be attributed to what Magners has done," she said.

"But it's the quality of the product that counts. People wouldn't keep drinking it if they didn't like it. We have both sides of the market. Older people still like to come to our vineyards and orchards and see how the drinks are made. But sales from stores are popular among the younger age group."

Forging the future

THE work of the farrier is no longer carried out from a forge and anvil in the middle of a village.

Now the age-old craft is on the move – with fire, tongs and all the rest of the equipment in the back of a van.

Appearing at this year's Kent County Show were Gill Dunmall and her husband Phil, from Yalding, who run a horse-shoeing business.

They say the trade is as important now as it has always been. And the van is the workshop, carrying the farrier's skills across the county and into Sussex.

Mrs Dunmall said: "In the old days there would be a forge in every village. Now it's a mobile trade. The farrier will take his forge and his fire in the back of a van and visit customers that way. People still need shoes for horses and they always will. Making horseshoes is a real skill and not one that should ever be lost.

"We've had to move with the times, but there is nothing wrong with that."

Island of tranquillity

MAKING the most of the garden was a theme for several stands at the County Show.

Holidaying at home was the inspiration for Trevor Brammah's innovative idea that has seen him draw inspiration from the beaches of the Caribbean to bring a touch of the exotic to everyday life.

His beach-style huts are available in several designs and can be constructed in the garden to be used as outdoor dining rooms, sitting areas, or even a spa. "I wanted to bring back some of the

SITTING PRETTY: Trevor Brammah in garden hut

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but with an eye on future

ALLOTTED SPACE: Brian Baldwin

atmosphere of the tropics and make it available to everyone," he said. "The huts are a really novel feature. They can be mounted on stilts or have steps up to them – many designs are possible.

"I have taken inspiration from countries across the world and made it available for people to put in their garden."

Brian Baldwin has another idea to make the best use of land. He offers allotments in East Farleigh that are rented out and the money given to deserving local causes.

Meanwhile, the home-grown produce is available for the table – or can be swapped between allotment holders.

"A charity called John Bunyan Leaver left three-and-a-half acres to anyone who wanted to grow things on it," said Mr Baldwin.

"And the profits are used for local charitable causes, usually just £100 or £200 here and there. But it all makes a difference."

My saucy secret

RIGHT RECIPE: Sally Harrington

A SPECIAL – and secret – recipe meant a business breakthrough for Sally Harrington. A sauce made first for herself, then for friends, then for the village shop, has taken off and become popular throughout the country.

After years in the catering business, Ms Harrington was experimenting with a salad dressing of her own creation.

It proved popular with guests at a dinner asking for just a slice of lettuce so they could savour the sweet garlic concoction.

"I never dreamt it would be such a hit," said Ms Harrington, from Benenden.

"But I started to make it for my friends and then even gave some to the village shop. They called me and said it had sold out in half-an-hour."

Now Benenden Sauce is on sale throughout the UK. "It has a unique selling point," said Ms Harrington. "And that is it can go equally well with salads or hot dishes.

"Obviously I don't make it all myself, but I ensure it is all made to my special recipe.

"And I am equally sure that it will be remaining a secret."

Wild, wild wood

EYE FOR DETAIL: Bill Prickett

SCULPTOR Bill Prickett has used a lifetime of working with animals to carve a career from his vocation – intricately designed wooden wild beasts and birds.

Mr Prickett, of Newnham, near Faversham, had a stand displaying his creations that attracted much interest.

He works 10 hours a day, six days a week, and each piece can take up to three weeks to complete.

Prices can go up to £900 for an individual sculpture. "I used to be a dolphin trainer and have always worked with animals," he said.

"The County Show is the ideal place for me to show what I do. I've been on expeditions to places such as Australia, Congo and Borneo, so my work with animals takes me all over the place.

"I have built up an excellent network of contacts when it comes to wildlife.

"If someone asks me for a sculpture of a gorilla, I can contact someone who knows all about the animals.

"I'll then study film and pictures and, if possible, spend time with the animal before starting on the work. That makes it as authentic as possible."

Common scents

ORGANIC children's wear and toys are the speciality of Paul Blair, from Maidstone, who used his experience of having four children to set up his own business – Kidz Organic. These include clothes and dolls all aimed at families who want to ensure their toddlers have an eco-friendly start to life.

CLEAN START: Paul Blair of Kidz Organic

"My babies suffered from dry skin and I found out that organic cotton and natural dyes are good for skin, so that's what I make my clothing from," he said.

All the materials used in Mr Blair's products are natural and no synthetic chemicals are present. One of his successes has been a doll stuffed with sheep wool.

"This keeps the scent of a parent and when babies are born prematurely the doll can be left in the incubator with the child," he said.

"So the bond between parent and child continues to grow even when they are not physically together."

THE Kent County Agricultural Society has arrested a four-year decline in visitors to the County Show. Official figures show an increase of more than 4,000 compared with last year.

Chairman George Jessel said: "85,000 visitors over the three days is more than we had dared hope for. The trend has been negative for years and we're delighted the public supported our initiative to take the show back to its farming roots."

Organisers received positive feedback from visitors who said the improved layout and emphasis on agriculture had given the County Show a more rural feel.

BUSINESS WEEK

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Investing in times of change

PROPOSED cuts in the civil service should serve as a wider warning of the importance of looking after staff during times of change.

That was the view from John Telfer, joint managing director of Inspiring Business Performance (IBP), which is responsible for delivering the Investors in People standard across London and the South East.

He said: "With budgets being slashed across every department, the majority of staff are understandably feeling particularly uneasy.

"In a time of such radical change, employee engagement is now more important than ever.

"The civil service is going to have to be creative to find new ways of working as there won't be money for consultants."

Investors in People (IiP) is recognised and internationally respected as a business improvement framework. Of the 60,000 organisations working with IiP in the UK, almost 20 per cent are in the public sector.

"Managers need to spell out the business case for continuing with schemes such as Investors in People," said Mr Telfer.

"Rather than looking at the initial outlay, organisations need to think about how much it is worth to hold on to established good practices and what would be the cost of managers not effectively managing their teams.

"Private sector organisations such as Nationwide estimate that a two per cent increase in their employee engagement index translates into 10 per cent productivity and efficiency gains," he added.

TALK TIME: IBP specialist Matthew Filbee explains the benefits of IiP to a delegate at the Civil Service Live event in London

"Thanks to NatWest, life at the aquarium is continuing to thrive"

Ian Cunningham, Managing Director, Blue Reef Aquariums

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Coalition's role in constructing the economic revival

HILARY DAVIES, South East regional strategy adviser for CITB-ConstructionSkills, the Industry Training Board and Sector Skills Council, looks at how the new coalition Government has a role to play in bringing the construction industry out of recession and kick-starting the economy

CONSTRUCTION is crucial to the success of our economic revival – and this is particularly true in the South East, where we are coming out of recession slower than many other regions.

As an industry, construction is one of the most efficient for public sector investment, with every £1 spent generating £2.84 in wider economic benefit. However, the recession has changed the industry, which now needs direct Government support to recover and deliver broader economic growth.

Obviously, the new Government's priority is to tackle the deficit, but it is also a key task to ensure there is public sector investment in key construction-based projects until the private sector picks up.

It is only by maintaining capital investment levels that we will prevent significant skills and job losses in the sector.

A sector which, in Kent alone, equates to more than 9,000 construction SMEs (small to medium-size enterprises) employing 34,000 staff – not to mention the thousands employed through larger building firms and the self-employed.

As the Sector Skills Council and Industry Training Board, we're working hard to help businesses to increase productivity, so we can create more jobs for local people and bring a welcome boost to the economy in the South East.

Only by keeping those opportunities local to our region can we ensure we help a generation of young people who are not employed or in education and training to find work on their doorstep.

On a positive note, the recent announcement of £150 million to fund 50,000 more apprenticeship places for SMEs – which goes beyond the 20,000 previously announced – is a welcome boost for the region.

Importantly for the South East, this funding will not only support young apprentices but many adults also seeking work.

Apprenticeships are the lifeblood of our industry and we must ensure we are creating enough opportunities for young people and that businesses are willing and able to invest in them.

At ConstructionSkills we're committed to change and committed to our industry. We're also looking forward to working alongside new MPs and ministers.

In particular we will be looking to put forward the views of employers and discuss how we can work together to the benefit of our industry, the people who work in it and the wider economy.

Six on highways shortlist

SIX companies have been shortlisted by Kent County Council for the contract to maintain its huge highway network of more than 5,000 miles of roads from next year.

They are Atkins, Balfour Beatty, Carillion, Colas, Enterprise and May Gurney.

KCC aims to refine its requirements by September 21.

The authority's cabinet member for environment, highways and waste, Cllr Nick Chard, said: "We are looking forward to an open dialogue with these companies. We are keen to hear how they could help us to make Kent's roads the best in the country, despite these difficult times and the financial challenges we are facing."

The new contract will be awarded in May, 2011, and run for up to 10 years. Work by current contractor Ringway will be completed on August 31, 2011.

In addition to the road network, KCC also maintains 4,000 miles of pavements, 2,700 bridges, 110,000 street lights and 300 miles of cycle network plus thousands of signs and bollards, traffic lights, road drains and even roadside trees and plantings.

Warning over legal disputes

TOWERGATE Risk Solutions, the Sevenoaks-based insurance broker, has urged businesses to protect their companies and managers against increased litigation.

This follows a survey by global law firm Fulbright & Jaworski which found that 40 per cent of UK companies expect to see a rise in legal disputes during 2010.

According to the survey, 48 per cent of respondents identified the economy as the principal reason they expect to see more litigation. In terms of the types of litigation, a net increase was seen in issues concerning bankruptcy/insolvency (32 per cent), contracts (27 per cent) and regulatory matters (13 per cent), among others, such as patents and labour/employment issues.

Andy White, chief executive of Towergate Risk Solutions, said: "The constant changes to the law and regulation are increasing the risk of management becoming a victim of personal litigation. What's more, the internet has increased the dangers of exposure to cyber-liabilities and losses. Companies should speak with their local broker who can advise on insurance policies which can give protection to their business and themselves."

Towergate Risk Solutions employs more than 80 staff. In 2008 it was voted private company of the year by ACQ Magazine and management team of the year by the Sunday Times Fast Track.

Words of wisdom

LAW firm Furley Page is sponsoring the reprint of a book about the first ever legal text written in English: The First Code of English Law by Patrick Wormald.

The Textus Roffensis, housed in the Medway archives, was produced in the 12th century.

This iconic work contains the earliest record of the English language, the first recorded English laws and the coronation oath of Henry I which influenced the barons who drafted the Magna Carta and is the subject of a special conference at the University of Kent from July 25-27 to discuss its worldwide importance.

Peter Hawkes, senior partner at Furley Page, said: "This is a fascinating book on law and English in its earliest written form and one of the most significant texts issued by England's early kingdoms, going back to the laws of King Ethelbert of Kent circa AD 604."

The conference is being chaired by University of Kent chancellor, Sir Robert Worcester, and features an open lecture by broadcaster and historian Michael Wood. For more information, visit www.kent.ac.uk/history/Events/textusroffensis.html.

Back for a third time

'Delay can be fatal in troubled times'

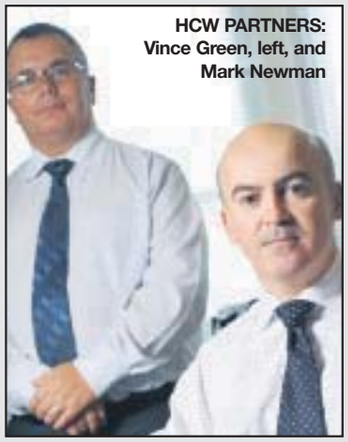
COMPANIES struggling against unrelenting waves of economic gloom are being urged to call for help sooner rather than later to avoid sinking without trace.

The call comes from an arm of an accountants dedicated to providing recovery services from firms sailing towards the rocks of insolvency. And it's most valuable piece of advice is to not delay in calling for help in remaining buoyant. It is perhaps ironic that one booming part of business for the likes of accountants is how to manage the impending meltdown of your business. According to HCW Recovery Solutions, the corporate recovery service from Tunbridge Wells-based accountants Horwath Clark Whitehill, taking advice as soon as possible is imperative. Led by partners Mark Newman and Vince Green, the department was established in November, 2009, and interest has exceeded the team's expectations. Mr Newman said: "Although we have only been offering the service for eight months, it has become very clear that the sooner we become involved with a company, the better. Several businesses that have made use of our services have been sold as a going concern, ensuring a better outcome for creditors and preventing job losses."

Having seen the service prove a success in Tunbridge Wells and Maidstone, HCW is now keen to build a national network of Recovery Solutions from its offices throughout the UK within the next five years.

Mr Green said: "The recession has affected every industry from small family businesses to large PLCs.

"We've worked with a variety of organisations ranging from a high-quality chocolate manufacturer to construction companies and even a private school. If the directors of troubled companies or individuals with financial difficulties approach us sooner rather than later, then there is a greater opportunity to rescue their position."



HCW PARTNERS: Vince Green, left, and Mark Newman

Services offered includes guiding firms through options such as going into administration, voluntary arrangements, liquidations and bankruptcies. Mr Newman said: "Where businesses have approached us as soon as they became aware of trading difficulties, we have been able to enter into successful arrangements with creditors and secure the ongoing trade of the business with a better outcome for all concerned.

"With a new Government in place and tough measures for economic reform, many businesses may encounter difficulties.

"There is no shame in asking for help and acting quickly could mean the difference between a business having a future or not."

AN EXPERT on helping publishers make the transition from 'hard copy' printing to digital formats has rejoined his old employer after a 10-year break.

Crispian McCredie is back with EMC Management Consultants, which has offices in Maidstone, Eastbourne, Crawley, Brighton & Hove and Chichester, after a decade with Euromoney Institutional Investor, where he was divisional director of its energy publishing division.

Crispian McCredie

He was closely involved in evaluating, buying and selling businesses for the group's energy publishing, training and conference businesses which included the acquisition of Gulf Publishing in Houston, where he was a board director from 2001-08.

This is his third spell with EMC, which he originally joined in 1991. He left for the first time in the mid-1990s to join the Swiss Bank Corporation as European marketing director of its asset management practice.

Close ties

Crispian said: "I've always maintained close ties with EMC and am happy to be rejoining them on a permanent basis.

"I look forward to being able to use my skills and knowledge to help business owners, company boards and investors generate new ideas and turn them into reality to generate profitable lines of business."

EMC provides corporate finance, interim management and operational support to SMEs in the South East, and pioneered the concept of the 'mobile boardroom' – a multi-disciplined taskforce capable of providing top-level support and advice.

All EMC's consultants are senior professionals with hands-on experience of running both large and small businesses.

They work across the main business disciplines – finance, sales, marketing, manufacturing and IT – to provide interim management (particularly finance directors), strategic planning, sales training, exporting, e-commerce and general business advice to businesses of all sizes and across all sectors.

NEXT WEEK: Business Week Spotlight will focus on commercial property

Timeline

KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 50 years

1960 **50 YEARS AGO:** A DISMAL batting performance saw Kent go down to a 110-run defeat to Middlesex at Blackheath.

All out for a 103 in the first innings in reply to Middlesex's 238, Kent only avoided a modest follow-on target thanks to 40 from Leary.

Set a target of 325 for victory, Kent collapsed to 80 for 6 and only some lower order hitting from Dixon (43) and Halfyard (36) prevented an even heavier defeat.

While his team mates toiled in south London, regular skipper Colin Cowdrey was being pilloried by the crowd at Old Trafford for setting the touring South Africans what was then considered an unattainably difficult target of 185 to win in 107 minutes – resulting in a tedious stalemate on the final day.

1985 **25 YEARS AGO:** HAZEL Chapman was at Brands Hatch to officially open Colin Chapman Way, named after her late husband, the man who turned Lotus into one of the most illustrious names in Grand Prix racing.

One of the first visitors to use the new road was a young Brazilian racing driver called Ayrton Senna, who jetted in to the West Kingsdown circuit fresh from a testing session with John Player Special Team Lotus in Holland.

A defiant 125 from Graham Gooch denied Kent victory against Essex in an absorbing encounter at Hesketh Park in Dartford.

Gooch, wearing a sunhat, batted for six hours, aided by Derek Pringle, who took 28 overs to make 15 runs.

2000 **10 YEARS AGO:** RAHUL Dravid was Kent's star in a six-wicket County Championship win over Hampshire at Portsmouth.

Dravid hit 137 from 295 balls, scoring more than half of Kent's first innings total of 252, with David Fulton the next highest scorer with 33 after Shane Warne ripped out the top order, to leave Kent trailing by 68 runs.

However, anything Warne could do, Min Patel could do better.

Patel took 5 for 46, including Robin Smith, Dimitri Mascarenhas and Shaun Udal, as Hants were all out for 136 in their second innings.

Fulton (42) and Rob Key (60) played supporting roles as Dravid (73 not out) won his personal duel with Warne, who bowled 30 overs without success as Kent turned the game on its head.

Tiley's major impact

Herne Bay golfer mixes it with the big boys at The Open

By DAVID PRITCHARD

SEEING your name on the Open Championship leaderboard at St Andrews is the stuff of dreams for the vast majority of golfers, but last week Steven Tiley did not have to worry about waking up.

After holing a birdie putt – his fifth of the first round – on the 13th green, the golfer from Herne Bay looked up and caught a glimpse of the scoreboard. In amongst household names like Rory McIlroy, Tiger Woods and Lee Westwood was his own: TILEY -5.

"It came up on the board and stayed there," he said. "I just had to keep doing what I was doing because as soon as you start thinking about it too much you have problems. Every time I did it I forced myself to focus on the next shot."

Birdie

Another birdie followed at the 15th in a blemish-free round of 66 (six-under-par), good enough for a share of third place after day one in his first Open as a professional.

Before the 27-year-old could take it in he got a glimpse of life as a top player, sitting through an hour of interviews for television, radio and the written press.

Tiley's name stayed in the leading pack for 24 hours, until he began his second round in the windiest conditions he had ever played in. The weather briefly saw play suspended and Tiley could only play 10 holes before darkness fell. Returning on Saturday morning after two hours sleep his game suffered, carding a 79 to slip down the field.

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

ROUND OF HIS LIFE: Steven Tiley's superb first round of 66 (six-under-par) saw him sitting third on the leaderboard at last week's Open Championship at St Andrews

It was still enough to make the cut and steady rounds of 73 and 74 saw Tiley, who climbed to 612 in the world rankings as a result, finished tied alongside Colin Montgomerie in 68th place.

It was back to the weekly routine on Thursday as he teed off in a Challenge Tour event at Chelmsford, but after getting a taste of the big time, the Royal Cinque Ports golfer is desperate for more.

He said: "It's what you practice for; to have your name on the leaderboard. You never truly believe it's going to happen, but when it does you start to think maybe I could hang with these guys on a regular basis. I just want to get back there as soon as I can; it's made me want to work harder than ever."

Zane Scotland, attached to Prince's Golf Club in Sandwich, also had a productive four days. Finishing two-over-par for the tournament he claimed a share of 55th place before he also headed off to Essex this week.

The spotlight now turns to Royal St George's in Sandwich, which will stage the tournament for the 14th time in its history next July.

Picture: ADY KERRY

HOPEFUL: Chart Hills' Tom Sherreard

Amateurs in bid for English title

A SELECTION of the county's best amateur golfers head to the Midlands next week in search of the coveted English Men's Amateur Championship.

The competition, held at Little Aston and Sutton Coldfield Golf Club, sees 208 amateur golfers do battle in a strokeplay and matchplay competition to determine the champion.

The tournament begins with 36 holes of stroke play to whittle the field down to 64, who will then take part in a knock-out matchplay tournament to crown a winner.

Leading a 12-man attack on the tournament from the county is former champion Todd Adcock from Nevill Golf Club in Tunbridge Wells.

He will be joined by Michael Saunders and Daniel Byrne (Dartford Golf Club), Levi Johnson (Canterbury), Liam Harper (Lydd), Tom Sherreard (Chart Hills), Damian Turner and Jack Colegate (Rochester & Cobham Park), Billy Britton (London Club), Darren Timms (Mid Kent), Liam Burns (Sundridge Park), and Charlie Wilson (Littlestone).

The 36-hole strokeplay segment of the tournament begins on Monday.

Cricket at Canterbury

Sunday 25 July
Kent Spitfires
v Hampshire Royals
Gates open 11.45am Start time 1.45pm

Thursday 29 July - Sunday 1 August
Kent v Essex
Gates open 9.00am Start time 11.00am

Kent County Cricket Club

Tel: 01227 456886 Email: communications.kent@ecb.co.uk Web: www.kentccc.com

Judo club's tornado terror

AN HEROIC coach saved the lives of several young judo players after a tornado tore through a sports hall at a training camp in Belgium.

About 160 players, including 10 from Tonbridge Judo Club, were practicing on the mat when the roof was ripped off the building, but miraculously everyone escaped alive.

The Tonbridge youngsters were being supervised on the trip by their coach, Colin Eldridge. The 50-year-old was blown out of the building when the tornado hit, but risked his own life to head back in and rescue those left inside.

"You just go into autopilot, I was the coach and I just wanted to get the kids safe, I didn't do anything more than anyone else would have done," he said. "When you look at the aftermath, how there were no fatalities I'll never know."

Chris Bowles, Tonbridge's head coach, felt some of those involved may need counselling to help them get over the traumatic experience, but hailed Eldridge's role in helping to avert what could have been a disaster.

LUCKY ESCAPE: Tonbridge Judo Club members outside wrecked training hall

He said: "You have all these kids in your care and all of a sudden you're looking at losing them. The way Colin acted was first class and we're really proud to have him on board."

Gunnell backing Dobriskey over Commonwealth Games decision

Picture: ADY KERRY

During visit to county, former track star says she would miss Commonwealth Games over security fears and focus on London Olympics if she were in 1500m runner's spikes

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

FORMER athletics star Sally Gunnell sympathises with Lisa Dobriskey's dilemma about competing at the Commonwealth Games, admitting she would have skipped them during her career to focus on Olympic glory.

This week track cyclist Victoria Pendleton became the latest big name to pull out of the Games in Delhi, following Sir Chris Hoy's lead earlier this month.

While their decision was down to a clash with the European Championships, several top athletes, including heptathlete Jessica Ennis, have withdrawn to concentrate on winter training.

Dobriskey, from Ashford, is yet to decide whether to defend the 1500-metre title she won in Melbourne four years ago.

With the Games not taking place until October, anyone competing faces a long outdoor season which could impact on preparations for next season when top athletes will be fine-tuning ahead of the 2012 Olympics.

Few athletes know the value of the Commonwealths more than Gunnell, who won gold medals at three successive Games. The former 400m hurdler was in Gravesend this week to open a new fitness suite, and understands the predicament.

"I think you have to look at the big picture and with 2012 coming round the corner it's an individual thing," she said. "What would I have done in that situation? I would have probably done the Europeans and missed the Commonwealths to get back in training.

"It's because of the timing; it's very late so you have to extend your season. It's a very difficult one, if you're at the top end of your sport I think you've got to think twice about it because it will have a knock-on effect on your ability to perform next year.

"If the Commonwealths are going to be your career highlight – and for some it really will be – then you take it and go out there. It's not the Olympics or the Worlds; it's the weakest of the four major championships."

Picture: GRAVESHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

SAFETY FIRST: Sally Gunnell, pictured in Gravesham, says she would not blame Lisa Dobriskey (above) for not defending her Commonwealth Games title in India

The priority for all British athletes this year are the European Championships, which begin in Barcelona on Tuesday.

Dobriskey is expected to contend for the medals in the 1500m after taking silver at the World Championships a year ago, and Gunnell believes she has what it takes to flourish – both next week and at the Olympics.

She said: "Lisa's had a few niggles, but it's all about performing when it really matters and she's a very exciting athlete to watch.

"She's very switched on and is someone you'd put your money on in some respects.

"With the next two years she's at the right age, she's at the peak of her career and has a great opportunity. Everything is falling into place, she's just got to make sure she gets right for the big day."

Gunnell was the special guest at a ceremony marking the official opening of a £1.2 million fitness suite at Cascades Leisure Centre in Gravesend on Tuesday. The 1992 Olympic champion is passionate about capitalising on the surge in sport post-2012, and was impressed with the facilities.

She said: "You can really see people are realising it's a massive opportunity and we've got to make the most of it. Everyone talks about the legacy, but what is actually being done about it? It's great when you come to places like this and see people are thinking about the legacy and putting things in place to make sure we don't waste it."

ACHIEVEMENT: Kent men's tennis team

Why top flight tennis is good for Kent scene

KENT'S men retained their top-flight status in the AEGON Summer County Cup this week in the latest in an encouraging set of results for the county's tennis scene.

The team won Group Two last year and the 11-strong squad saw off Warwickshire, North of Scotland, and Lancashire, in their opening doubles matches in Eastbourne. It put them in with a chance of winning the title for the first time in 2005 as we went to press.

It is the latest achievement in a prolific few weeks for Kent tennis. Lewis Burton, who plays at the Bromley Tennis Academy (BTA), reached the Wimbledon boys' doubles final earlier this month, his club-mates won the AEGON Team Tennis National Open title last weekend, and a team from Langley Park School for Girls in Beckenham finished seventh in the national schools championships.

Promising

The vast majority of the players getting all the success are involved with the BTA, one of 19 high performance centres set up nationwide in 2005. Naomi Cavaday, ranked number four in Britain, was one of the first to benefit, but there is a promising group of juniors progressing through the ranks.

Clint Harris, director at the BTA, is pleased with the progress the facility is making, but offered a relatively bleak assessment of British tennis's strength compared to other countries.

He said: "Our facility is moving ahead and our player base is growing. I'm optimistic we're doing better things than we were a decade ago.

"But if you look at our European counterparts and how many players they have at their base, it's significantly greater. We still don't have enough clubs with a performance mentality, we don't have enough players or access to courts.

"There's around 10 times the number of clubs in France, so their base is greater. They will have more players in that top one per cent, which is not happening with British tennis, where the numbers are more limited."

Seymour targets World Cup berth after England success

Pictures: ADY KERRY

ALL SMILES: Nat Seymour with the bronze medal she won at the Champions Trophy and in action against the Netherlands (right)

SUCCESS at the Hockey World Cup is now top of Natalie Seymour's agenda after helping England's women make history at the Champions Trophy last weekend.

The 23-year-old featured in every game as England surpassed expectations in Nottingham, beating Germany last Sunday to claim a bronze medal, their best ever finish in the annual tournament.

After a brief break the squad have little time to rest on their laurels, with the World Cup beginning in Argentina at the end of August. England have never won a medal at the competition, which is second only to the Olympics in prestige.

Seymour, who plays for Canterbury ladies, is not taking anything for granted, but believes the results at the Trophy have given everyone in the set-up a newfound confidence.

She said: "It's about trying to maintain my level of performance to get into a position for World Cup selection. Having such a positive experience at the Champions Trophy definitely helps us going forward.

"It was an amazing experience on so many levels. We're obviously delighted to get the medal and we felt we really performed well as a squad. Also the way we won games has just given us so much belief playing against teams like that, many of the games were very close and we still managed to come out on top."

The event in Nottingham was the first real test of the centralised training programme launched last autumn, where the squad train together three times a week. After finishing bottom in last year's Trophy, Seymour is convinced it shows the hard work is worth it.

She said: "We're delighted to have tangible evidence it's working. It's only been 10 months since we started with the programme so for us going back into it, winning a medal is really motivating because we've seen the benefits."

RACKET: Vuvuzelas at the World Cup

No plans to turn Priestfield into a no-blow area

GILLINGHAM haven't ruled out banning the controversial vuvuzela at Priestfield this season, saying they will review their policy if they become a nuisance.

The horns, which can produce a sound of up to 120 decibels, were a talking point at this summer's World Cup, with some players complaining they could not hear their own team-mates.

Fifa rejected calls to ban vuvuzelas from stadia in South Africa, but a growing number of English clubs, including Arsenal and West Ham as well as a host of Football League clubs, have announced they will not be allowing them in this season.

The Gills have not followed suit, for the moment.

A club spokesman said: "The safety and enjoyment of our supporters is of paramount importance to the club and, given the decibel levels produced by these instruments, we believe that it may be in the best interests of the fans to discourage their use within the stadium.

"Anyone who has visited Priestfield in recent seasons will know that our fantastic supporters are more than capable of generating a vibrant atmosphere without the use of artificial equipment."

New hope in Gills defender's fight to end injury hell

Club hire Premier stars' physiotherapist to help King win battle back to fitness

By DAVID PRITCHARD

A NEW rehabilitation programme is beginning to pay off for Simon King after the Gillingham defender turned to a former Premier League physiotherapist for help.

This week marked the one-year anniversary of the pre-season friendly at Bromley which saw King stretchered off with an ankle injury.

After going under the knife last September, he set himself the goal of returning to the first-team before the end of the season, but a series of setbacks forced the 27-year-old to think again.

Earlier this summer, King's surgeon put him in touch with John Green, who spent 15 years as head physio at West Ham. Now in private practice, he counts Michael Owen, David James and Craig Bellamy among his previous clients, but his first piece of advice came as a body blow.

"The best thing was to start from scratch again," King said. "It was pretty demoralising. To be out the whole season and work hard to do as much as I could, but then all of a sudden I was back to square one. It was a kick in the teeth at the time, but I've been out for so long now that if it takes a few more months, then so be it."

A year on the sidelines has given King plenty of time for reflection and one of the biggest regrets is the feeling the injury was partly self-inflicted. In helping the Gills win promotion via the play-offs two seasons ago, he played with an injury for months, getting by on painkillers while gradually wearing away the irreplaceable cartilage.

He said: "If I had known what sort of damage I was doing at the time I wouldn't have done it. The reality is it's happened, unfortunately my ankle had a lot of wear from that season and I don't think it's ever going to be 100 per cent.

"[Giving up] has crossed my mind a few times as some days you don't seem to be getting anywhere, that's when you need your friends and family around you. Everyone's been great and the new management team have been very supportive and are not trying to rush me back."

With a new rehabilitation schedule set by Green, King has completely focused on strengthening the muscles around his injured ankle for the last six weeks.

The plan is to begin light jogging next month using a special treadmill which reduces the amount of weight borne by one leg, and build up gradually.

As someone who has come to view the light at the end of the tunnel with more than a degree of scepticism, King is positive, but realistic about his progress.

He said: "In my head I'd love to be back for Barnet in November. We've got Oxford, another one of my old clubs, around then as well, it would be lovely to be part of those games, but I'm not going to build all my hopes up.

"My goal's about the bigger picture, so I won't be too disappointed if it takes a bit longer."

BAD BREAK: Simon King in his last competitive game for Gillingham, at Wembley 14 months ago Picture: ADY KERRY

Hayes targets wide boys after signing trio at Dover

DOVER Athletic boss Martin Hayes says his next priority is to sign two wingers, after completing a triple transfer earlier this week.

The Whites squad is starting to take shape, but new boss Hayes is far from finished in the transfer market.

Ex-Bristol Rovers striker Ben Hunt, former Welling United midfielder Sam Cutler and defender Dean Hill, have all agreed one-year deals at the club.

Hunt spent the last two seasons at Rovers, while Cutler has a wealth of experience at Conference level. Hill is familiar with Whites fans after being part of the squad for the last two seasons.

While delighted by the signings, Hayes' squad-building process is not yet complete and is now turning his attentions to wingers.

The lack of width was a problem at Crabble last season, particularly when Jerahl Hughes departed towards the end of the campaign.

He said: "I'm trying to find a couple of out-and-out wingers to be honest. We lack a bit of pace down the flanks, I think when we find them the puzzle will start to take shape.

"They will give us an extra dimension going forward. I want a nice competitive squad with players fighting for places."

Midfielder Luke I'Anson, who featured at Bromley last season, and former Barnet striker Elliott Charles are both being monitored by Hayes and could be in line to earn deals.

Elsewhere at the club, Michael Sandmann has joined the club as the new Dover Football Academy manager, replacing Darren Hare who joined Gillingham last month.

Picture: SIMON HARRIS

TRIPLE TRANSFER: Boss Martin Hayes

Fleet boss to separate the men from the boys

Picture: IGOR KUPCO

RETURN: Ebbsfleet United's Craig Stone

LIAM Daish has three weeks to turn youthful exuberance into a resilient Blue Square Bet South side as Ebbsfleet United's pre-season programme gathers pace, ***writes Steve Tervet.***

With only three of last season's squad featuring in Tuesday's 1-1 draw at Aveley, Daish ran his eye over nine triallists, but he does not have the luxury of time to assess the youngsters' potential.

One of the new faces, Tyrone Sealey, looks to have already impressed Daish having set up Scott Ginty's equaliser at Aveley, and he showed bursts of explosive pace in his second-half outing.

Elsewhere, former Dover and Grays goalkeeper Preston Edwards put forward a strong case to replace Gillingham-bound Lance Cronin after coming on for James Dunn at half-time.

With Maidenhead United providing the opening-day opposition on August 14, Daish is likely to select from the players already training with the Fleet, rather than looking elsewhere.

"I've got an idea of what is needed at this level," he said. "It's men's football and young players who have played in youth teams have got to show me they can cope physically and be strong on the ball and make the right decisions.

"What they're used to is small-sided games against players of similar ages. You need a bit more when you're playing on the more competitive side of non-league football."

Craig Stone's return to fitness could see him in line for a second spell at Stonebridge Road, while former Bromley and Maidstone midfielder Mark Corneille may also sign for Daish's side, having moved on after a trial period with Dover.

Back to basics for Treddy after mixed England spell

After failing to nail down an international spot, the Kent off-spinner is focusing on a return to form in the championship

IT HAS been a real topsy-turvy summer for me – including an ICC World Twenty20 victory in the Caribbean, stop-start spells with Kent, a series of games for the England Lions and another One-Day International appearance for England.

Unfortunately, in that England game – the first in the recent three-match NatWest Series against Bangladesh – I was only given three overs to bowl and didn't really have a chance to do myself justice. I was then left out of the remaining two games.

Of course, that was disappointing because with Graeme Swann rested I had joined up with the England one-day squad hoping and believing I would get all three games to show what I could do and try to develop further my international career, which began in Bangladesh last winter.

But the pitches persuaded the England management to go with the extra seamer, and in the one game I played, Paul Collingwood ended up bowling a lot of overs with his medium-pacers simply because of the conditions.

I have to respect that, and I understand totally why England went the way they did with their bowling selections.

Nevertheless, and even though I didn't think the three overs I bowled were that bad, I feel I went into the series with my bowling action not quite where I wanted it to be.

I also think, overall, there was a little bit of a hangover for me from not bowling as well as I could have done during the England Lions games I played in directly before linking up with the senior one-day squad.

During the second one-dayer against Bangladesh, having been left out of the team for the match, I did however have a session with Andy Flower out in the middle during the break in innings and was able to chat to him a bit about trying to get my action back to where it was.

I had also spoken a bit with David Parsons, the Academy director and England's former spin coach, during the Lions games, and so I was able to discuss further with Andy what David and I had talked about. It all meant I came away from my spell with England with some clarity of thinking, and in a positive frame of mind, and also looking forward immensely to the last couple of months of the season.

All I really want to do for the foreseeable future is bowl lots of overs for Kent, and get back the rhythm I've had for most of the past year or so, and especially last summer.

I think I got into some bad habits with my bowling during the winter, largely as a result of bowling too much in the nets, and I've suffered a bit this summer from not getting as many overs under my belt as I would have liked.

Last week's game at Taunton against Somerset, for instance, was only my fifth County Championship appearance of the season – and in two of those games earlier this summer I hardly got a bowl because of either the weather or the pitch conditions. So I'm looking to make up for all of that now.

There is a lot of cricket to be played in the next six or seven weeks – predominantly championship cricket – which should give me the opportunity to have the long bowls I need.

We also need to start to win some championship games, and quickly, and so the motivation could not be bigger for me at the moment.

I'm just desperate to get back to being fully involved in Kent matches, with both ball and bat, and if I want to have a chance of being chosen by England again this winter – or in the one-day matches against Pakistan in September – then I had better start to perform.

• ***James Tredwell, the Kent and England off-spinning all-rounder, is one of Kent on Sunday's regular sports columnists.***

HOME FRONT: James Tredwell wants to make the most of the rest of the season with Kent
Picture: ADY KERRY

Pictures: IGOR KUPCO

CUP HOPEFULS: But The Mote must be wary not to fall foul of an upset

Silverware up for grabs in the Twenty20 Cup

THE first silverware of the cricket season is up for grabs this afternoon as Kent League Twenty20 finals day returns to Beckenham for the second year running.

Four sides remain in the competition, which started in May, with the possibility of an all-Premier Division encounter in the final at Foxgrove Road.

However, Bexley and The Mote are unlikely to have things all their own way at the conclusion of a competition which has seen its fair share of upsets.

The day's first semi-final begins at 10am with Bexley facing Division One side Blackheath for the right to meet The Mote or Upchurch in the final.

Upchurch, representing Division Three, are the only club of the last four to have entered the competition at the first-round stage, and they sprang a surprise on Wednesday by beating St Lawrence in the last quarter-final.

Beckenham chairman Jason Bilimoria said: "We're delighted to be hosting finals day again. Loads of people came to the club last year and we had three high-quality games of cricket.

"It's a shame we're not involved this year, but I would keep an eye on Blackheath. They're a strong side and it would be nice if a side outside the Premier Division were to win."

SHOCK WIN: Upchurch (bowling) beat St Lawrence in the quarter-finals

Farbrace calls for a rousing finish

KENT head coach Paul Farbrace insists finishing as high as possible in the LV= County Championship should be the focus for the rest of the season, rather than adopting a mindset of survival in Division One, ***writes Glenn Pearson.***

After failing to qualify for the knockout stages of this year's Friends Provident t20, the focus will now be almost entirely on ensuring Kent do not make an immediate return to Division Two in the championship, and they have six games left to escape the drop.

Farbrace, who has been left with a threadbare squad decimated by injury to key personnel all season, was clear about how the squad will be viewing the final half of the summer – not a relegation battle.

"I think it's probably more of a case of looking to finish as high as we possibly can rather than thinking about staying up, I think that's the wrong way to think," he said. "There's still lots of games left and plenty of points to play for.

"Staying in the division was definitely one of the goals at the start of the year and that's certainly still the aim."

The side were second bottom going into this week's fixture against Somerset at Taunton, but attention now turns to the Clydesdale Bank 40 competition, with Hampshire arriving at St Lawrence today.

The Kent Spitfires haven't played in the 40-over format since the 58-run win against Scotland back in May, but Farbrace expects the side to take some of the momentum gained from wins at the end of the t20 competition into today's game, which starts at 1.45pm.

"I think we have learned from t20 there has certainly been things we can improve on, so from that point of view we will look at the 40-over game as a chance to win some one-day cricket. We'll take some confidence of winning the last three t20 games into that."

Martin van Jaarsveld will again skipper the side in the absence of Rob Key and is likely to take charge of the same team that travelled to Taunton this week, with the exception of Azhar Mahmood, who could take Sam Northeast's place in the side.

Picture: ADY KERRY

TARGET: Paul Farbrace wants Kent to finish strongly in the championship after an early exit in Twenty20

KENT SWEAT OVER FAST BOWLER'S FUTURE

WAITING GAME: Amjad Khan's contract's up this summer
Picture: ADY KERRY

Somerset and Surrey in talks with Khan

By GLENN PEARSON

KENT face an anxious wait to learn whether Amjad Khan will accept a new contract at St Lawrence after Somerset and Sussex entered the race to sign him for next season.

The two counties registered their interest more than a month ago after learning Khan was in the last year of his contract at St Lawrence, triggering a clause that allows clubs to talk to a player following the submission of 28-day written notice.

Both clubs have been in contact with the player, although Somerset chief executive Richard Gould said talks between his county and Khan are "on hold", presumably as Kent have been playing at Taunton this week.

Sussex are the other county that have expressed an interest in talking to the player, exclusively revealed on our website www.kentnews.co.uk, while Kent too have talked to Khan and his agent David Fulton

Head coach Paul Farbrace told Kent on Sunday: "It's something we have known about for a while, certainly two counties have written in and asked permission to speak to him using the 28-day rule, which of course we had to give permission for.

"We don't want to lose him, but he has to decide what's best for his career at this stage.

"We have had one initial discussion with him and his agent about staying and we have said that we want him to stay. It's in his hands and he has got to make a call as to what he wants to do."

The club re-signed several high-profile players nearing the end of their contracts last season, including Rob Key, Martin van Jaarsveld, Geraint Jones and Joe Denly, but a decision was made not to offer Khan an extension at that time.

The 29-year-old has struggled with injury over the last two seasons and it's likely Kent were looking to see how the Danish-born paceman fared during the course of this summer, before offering a new deal.

Farbrace said: "It was obviously a risk when we ran him down to the last year of his contract, but we thought that was the best thing for all concerned and it's now up to him to make the call."

Elsewhere, Kent's injury problems continue to stretch their limited squad after Robbie Joseph suffered a recurrence of his shoulder strain.

The fast bowler made a return after a year out in the championship game at Hampshire earlier this month, but was ruled out of the game at Taunton this week.

It's another blow for the side who have at times this season been without Joseph, Khan, Dewald Nel, James Tredwell, and an overseas bowler.

"Robbie's had a recurrence of shoulder soreness so has gone back to Canterbury for treatment and we'll decide what is the best step from there," Farbrace explained. "He has a chance of playing in the championship game against Essex next week, but it's probably unlikely, we'll have to see where we are next week. It's not ideal, but there's not a lot we can do really.

"We were promised he would be ready for the start of the season and obviously he wasn't. It's been a long, slow process and it's tough for everyone concerned, but we have to just get on with it."

Skipper Rob Key is nearing fitness, however, and could be available for the visit of Essex on Thursday. He broke a finger batting at the Rose Bowl nearly three weeks ago, but could be back a week earlier than previously anticipated.

Town could be forced to stop playing

THE BOARDROOM turmoil at Ashford Town sunk to new depths this week when one of the owners admitted the club are "highly unlikely" to play football this season.

The future for the club looks bleak as a long running dispute between co-owners Don Crosbie and Tony Betteridge came to a head with news Town are set to go into administration on Thursday.

That comes off the back of the club resigning from the Ryman League at the beginning of the week, but it doesn't end there as Ashford also face a winding-up order and are suspended from all football due to £2,000 of unpaid loan fees owed to Ebbsfleet United.

Town face a race against time to play competitive football with the Kent League their only possible route. With the Kent League season just two weeks away, Ashford need to pay their debts to Ebbsfleet for the ban to be lifted before the end of next week in order for the Kent League to host an EGM.

At the meeting the club will need approval from all Kent League clubs before entry can be accepted.

Freehold

It's a race against the clock for the club and Betteridge, who owns the freehold to the club's Homelands ground, believes it's one Ashford will not win.

Betteridge said: "I don't know how long this is going to take.

"Even with the administration route it is highly unlikely Ashford will be playing this season. If it's left to the last minute to pay Ebbsfleet, I don't see how they will be accepted into the Kent League."

Crosbie, who is also club chairman, admits Town face a tough battle to have everything in place before the start of the campaign, but is confident Ashford will play senior football this season.

"I'm as confident as I can be that we will be playing in the Kent League," he said.

"At the minute there is a boardroom deadlock and myself and Tony are unable to come to an agreement about anything. Administration is the only way to go to keep this club alive."

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Marshals ride luck at Brands

RACE marshals at Brands Hatch were lucky to escape without injury following a spectacular crash during a support car race at last weekend's World Touring Car meeting.

The accident happened last Sunday when Seat Euro Cup racer Francisco Carvalho tangled with another driver at 100mph which launched his car into a violent end-over-end crash, narrowly missing the West Kingsdown circuit's marshals.

The Euro Cup race was stopped and medics attended the mangled remains of the Seat and were amazed to find the driver had merely suffered a few bruises and was left shaken.

A spokesman for the circuit said: "We have the best marshals around. They were very lucky but very professional in the way they dealt with this incident."

LUCKY ESCAPE: Marshals were unhurt as Francisco Carvalho's Seat hurtled towards them after a 100mph smash at Brands last weekend – the driver walked away with just cuts and bruises

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